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**Above:** President Bush and first lady Laura Bush stand next to Staff Sgt. Robin Minor, from left, Capt. Brian Chontosh and Cpl. Klayton South during "Saluting Those Who Serve" at the MCI Center on Tuesday in Washington. **Left:** The president and first lady sit with servicemembers during the event.

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# News Tracker ... What's new with old news

## States

**U.S. sanctions against China:** The Bush administration has quietly applied new sanctions against eight Chinese companies for helping Iran with its missile programs, the White House spokesman said Tuesday.

Administration officials confirmed a report in The New York Times that said the State Department had served notices to the Chinese firms early this month. A North Korean company also was penalized.

**Staten Island ferry crash:** Michael Ganss, the pilot at the helm of the Staten Island ferry that crashed into a pier in 2003, angrily blamed himself for the wreck that killed 11 and injured dozens, according to documents released Tuesday by federal investigators.

The information about the pilot was provided in the testimony of Patrick Ryan, the city's director of ferry operations, who now is being prosecuted for his alleged role in the crash.

**Availanche rescue effort:** After four days of searching a 16-acre debris field in Park City, Utah, rescue crews ended their large-scale probe for victims of last week's powerful avalanche.

Summit County Sheriff Dave Edmunds said chances were good that the avalanche near Park City, about 20 miles east of Salt Lake City, trapped only one person.

## World

**Uzbek terror trial:** Six people went on trial in the Uzbek capital of Tashkent on Tuesday on suspicion of involvement in deadly attacks last year that the government blamed on Islamic radicals.

The two women and four men are being tried in the Tashkent City Court on charges of terrorism and extremism and could be sentenced to death if convicted, court officials said.

Uzbek authorities have jailed more than 100 people in connection with the two waves of explosions and attacks last spring and summer, which killed more than 50 people.

**Iran nuclear suspicions:** The U.N. nuclear watchdog agency is pushing for a fresh look at an Iranian military complex linked by the United States to possible atomic arms research just days after being granted limited access, diplomats said Tuesday.

The International Atomic Energy Agency is interested in testing another part of the sprawling Parchin complex just outside Te-



**Iran illegal summons:** Iranian Nobel peace laureate Shirin Ebadi speaks with media during a news conference Monday in Tehran, Iran. In a rare admission of fault, Iran's judiciary conceded Tuesday that a Revolutionary Court summons for Ebadi was illegal and said the matter would be dropped. But Judiciary spokesman Jamal Karimirad denied Ebadi's statement that Iran holds detainees in solitary confinement.

hran in its search for radiation that could point to such research, the diplomats said.

The request by the Vienna, Austria-based IAEA comes just days after its inspectors were given partial access to the site.

**Ukraine election:** Ukraine's Supreme Court panned the way Tuesday for the inauguration of Western-leaning reformer Viktor Yushchenko in a ruling issued while it still considers an appeal by the Kremlin-favored losing candidate.

Representatives of former Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich, who filed the appeal, denounced the decision as politically biased and warned it would undermine Ukraine's stability and aggravate tensions.

The court, responding to a motion by Yushchenko's camp, ruled that the results of the presidential election can be published in two government newspapers — a precondition for the inauguration.

**Kuwait extremists:** At least 20 Kuwaiti and Saudi men have been arrested and are being interrogated about deadly clashes between police and Islamic fundamentalists earlier this month, an Interior Ministry official said.

Twenty to 25 Kuwaiti and Saudi men are in custody and are being questioned about the clashes, according to an interior ministry official who spoke on customary condition of anonymity.

**Pakistan bombing suspects:** Police on Tuesday arrested three brothers for allegedly harboring suspected suicide bombers who later made an attempt on the life of Pakistani Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz.

The suspects, alleged members of the Islamic militant group Jaish-e-Mohammed, were identified as Abdul Moim, Abdul Basit and Nisar.

Chaudhry Iftikhar, the chief of police in Rawalpindi, a city near the capital, said the three were nabbed in their home village in Attock, a district to the west, where the attack was launched July 30 as Aziz campaigned for a by-election, weeks before he took office. Aziz escaped unhurt but nine other bystanders were killed.

**Zimbabwe abuse allegations:** A British newspaper reported Tuesday that it had received fresh evidence of human rights abuses in Zimbabwe by pro-government supporters ahead of parliamentary elections.

The Guardian said photographs taken by an activist show evidence of intimidation and violence against opposition figures.

It published one of the pictures, showing a woman with burns who was reportedly doused in paraffin and set alight.

The Zimbabwean High Commission in London dismissed the claims in the story.

Stories and photo from The Associated Press

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# AF to extend accompanied tours on Guam

## Accompanied assignments grow to 36 months, unaccompanied to 24

By LISA BURGESS  
Stars and Stripes

ARLINGTON, Va. — Beginning next January, the Air Force's accompanied tours on Guam will change from 24 to 36 months, and unaccompanied tours will go from 15 to 24 months.

The extensions make the assignment a long tour versus a short tour for Air Force personnel, according to a service-wide message about the change sent on Jan. 12 by the Air Force's Office of Personnel at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas.

Airmen who report to Guam before Dec. 31 will continue to receive short-tour credit, while those reporting on or after Jan. 1 will serve the long tour and subsequently receive long-tour credit, according to Tech. Sgt. Jason Malec, the noncommissioned officer in charge of assignment policy liaison at Randolph.

David Chu, undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, said the services were directed to change their Guam tours from short to long-term last summer.

The Navy, which has three submarines stationed at Guam, changed its policy on Oct. 12, Sharon Anderson, a spokeswoman in the Navy's personnel office, said Tuesday.

But leaders at Pacific Air Forces waited to implement the policy because a planned Defense Department-sponsored high school on Guam was not scheduled for completion until late 2005, Malec said in a Tuesday telephone interview.

The Air Force currently has about 1,880 personnel assigned to Guam, including 220 officers and 1,658 enlisted airmen, Malec said.

Of those, about 143 officers are on accompanied tours, as are 850 enlisted airmen, he said.

Although a few airmen are assigned to support the Navy on Guam, most Air Force personnel are assigned to Andersen Air Force Base in support of the 36th Air Expeditionary Wing and its tenant units, such as the 13th Air Force, Malec said.

The airmen now assigned to Guam will receive short-term credits for their turn on the base, Malec said, with one exception: if they opt to stay for another tour on Guam, such airmen (and their families, if applicable) will need to stay for the new, longer assignment, which in Air Force lingo is known as an "in-place, consecutive overseas tour," Malec said.

That follow-on tour will be credited as a long-term assignment.

Air Force personnel officials are now working to notify the 31 airmen who had assignments to Guam that were to begin after Jan. 1, 2006, that their tours will be longer.

Those airmen will be given the option to turn down the Guam assignment and ask for an alternate posting, Malec said.

Air Force leaders have repeatedly mentioned Guam as a possible permanent base should Pacific Air Forces expand in the region, touting its strategic placement 1,500 miles from the Korean peninsula and a similar distance from the Taiwan Straits.

But the Air Force has yet to assign actual aircraft to the island territory, although Andersen hosted B-1 and B-52 bombers when tensions with North Korea began to rise in 2003.

The sprawling base is now kept in readiness "as a support base," Malec said.

Airmen with questions about Guam should contact their Military Personnel Flights for more information, Malec said.

E-mail Lisa Burgess at: [burgess@stripes.osd.mil](mailto:burgess@stripes.osd.mil)

### Chief master sergeant ceremony

MISAWA AIR BASE, Japan — Misawa will honor its recently selected chief master sergeants during the 2005 Chief Master Sergeant Induction Ceremony and Banquet at 6 p.m. Feb. 4 in the Tohoku Enlisted Club ballroom. The cost is \$20; the uniform is mess dress or semi-formal for military members and the appropriate equivalent for civilians. Contact any chief master sergeant or chief-select by Jan. 25 to attend.

### Misawa post office closed Thursdays

MISAWA AIR BASE, Japan — The Misawa Post Office will be closed every Thursday from now through Feb. 18 for training to prepare for the 2005 Unit Compliance Inspection Feb. 28 to March 4. Call DSN 226-9327 or e-mail [35cs.postoffice@misawa.af.mil](mailto:35cs.postoffice@misawa.af.mil) for more information or in an emergency.

### Japan Day help needed

MISAWA AIR BASE, Japan — People are needed to help with this year's Japan Day set for April 2 at Edgren High School. Tasks include helping with advertising, classroom set-up, exhibit security, interpreting and parking. Call 1st Lt. Jonathan Hanon at DSN 226-2545 for more information.

### Photo contest

MISAWA, Japan — The annual Shinoda-Town Swan Photo Contest is accepting entries now through Feb. 4. Entry forms can be picked up at the Shinoda Post Office. Call (0176) 56-2111 ext. 231 for more information or for an entry form.

### Kids' developmental screening

MISAWA AIR BASE, Japan — Parents with concerns about how their child walks, talks, thinks and plays, or about other developmental issues, may sign up for a free early childhood developmental screening. The screenings, for children ages 6 months to 5 years, are available on base from Feb. 7 to Feb. 11. The screenings are sponsored by Educational and Developmental Intervention Service and Department of Defense Dependents Schools. Call DSN 226-9039 to make an appointment or for more information.

### Locker-room closure

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — The women's locker room at the natatorium will be closed Jan. 24-25 for scheduled renovations, 374th Services Division officials said.

It's slated to reopen Jan. 26.

From staff reports

### Sailors aim to qualify for Auxiliary Security Force at Yokosuka



CRYSTAL BROOKS/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

At Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan, members of Commander U.S. Naval Forces Japan Marine Cadre and Commander, Fleet Activities Yokosuka Security calculate scores during the 9mm gun qualification for Auxiliary Security Force members.

## 'Andro' use illegal starting Thursday

By LEO SHANE III  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Throw out those androstenedione products right now, as of today, they're illegal to own.

Starting Thursday, federal regulators will classify the pro-hormone androstenedione as a schedule III controlled substance, meaning purchase and possession of the body-building product is permitted only with a doctor's prescription.

Department of Defense officials said any servicemember caught with the drug will be in violation of the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

Androstenedione supplements, which produce extra testosterone when ingested, have been available over the counter for years as a way to

increase muscle mass, and gained extra attention after Mark McGwire admitted to using the pro-hormone during his record-setting 1998 baseball season.

But Col. Vincent F. Carr, the Air Force's chief consultant for internal medicine services, said the classification change of the drug reflects the dangerous side effects federal regulators have discovered in the last few years.

"It's the classic symptoms of too much testosterone: In men, it's too much aggression, blood pressure increase, cholesterol increase, increased likelihood of coronary disease, and testicular atrophy," he said. "The female problems are things like male pattern baldness and hypertension, as well as the blood pressure and coronary disease."

Androstenedione is available by prescription, but Carr called that merely a classification issue. He said no doctor would prescribe more than 20 mg of the chemical, and that is too small an amount to produce muscle-building results.

Carr said he does not anticipate the new ban creating any significant problems for troops. Military exchanges across the globe phased out the last of their andro products more than a month ago, and Carr said he hasn't heard many recent reports of andro use or abuse.

"We still get folks once in a while who buy it and use it, but for the vast majority of the military it isn't an issue," Carr said. "Once the word got out that these substances were becoming, many just stopped using them."

E-mail Leo Shane at: [shanel@stripes.osd.mil](mailto:shanel@stripes.osd.mil)

# Civil affairs teams taking over tsunami aid

BY JULIANA GITTNER

Stars and Stripes

UTAPAO, Thailand — The Army unit usually responsible for post-combat reconstruction hit the ground in tsunami-damaged South Asia recently, ready to rebuild and bridge the gap between civilian aid groups and the military.

Three teams of four civil affairs soldiers with B Company of the 96th Civil Affairs Battalion from Fort Bragg, N.C., are in the region to begin reconstruction efforts and to pave the way for the military's eventual departure.

"Really that's what we're trying to accomplish," said Maj. Gerry Messmer, Detachment 220's commander. "Turning over the military (aid and support) pipeline to civilians."

In the meantime, the teams are focused on relieving suffering.

On their first day in Sri Lanka Saturday, the team there discovered a warehouse with 40 tons of food that had been overlooked by groups assisting in the relief effort, Messmer said.

They started sorting the pallets of supplies to get the relief out.

"They worked with the Marines to break it down and get it out to the camps," Messmer said.

A second team is working in Banda Aceh, Indonesia, and the third, back at the headquarters in Thailand.

The teams are able to use existing assessments made by various military and nongovernmental agencies since the disaster three

weeks ago. Their goal is to combine the assessments to get an overall measurement of need, such as medical and engineering, then begin meeting that need using military and NGO support.

"The biggest thing we can offer right now really is the cooperation between the civilian organizations and the military," Messmer said.

The goal for civil affairs is helping local people, contractors, governments and aid agencies to help themselves, he said. They work with the international community and the U.S. government to secure funding for local projects and use local raw materials and contractors to jump-start the local economy.

"My guys are already identifying lumber yards to find materials to build things," Messmer said.

The immediate goal in many areas is helping return displaced people to their homes to help them start rebuilding.

"Put in wells, build orphanages, schools. Get the people back to their village and back into their community," Messmer said.

In fishing communities the teams could restore the fishing industry by funding the repair of docks and fish processing facilities and helping fishermen purchase new boats.

Civil affairs falls under the psychological operations command but they often are perceived differently than the regular military. They might wear civilian clothing and usually are not part of combat

operations.

That assuages the fears of locals and civilian aid agencies.

"There's always a hesitancy from the organizations to work with the military," Messmer said.

The teams likely will have an easier time in South Asia since the damage wasn't caused by military force or conflict. The civil affairs mission — winning hearts

and minds — is usually relevant where people are affected by combat.

"Here it's easy to build that trust because some of them have nothing left," Messmer said. "This is exactly the kind of mission that civil affairs was designed to do outside of a combat environment."

It isn't clear how long teams

will be in place. Civil Affairs groups often remain somewhere after other military units pack up. The battalion has completed several projects in Indonesia over the past six months.

"We've actually built a good rapport with the [Indonesian military] through the Embassy and the country team," Messmer said.

E-mail Juliana Gittner at: gittnerj@pstripes.osd.mil

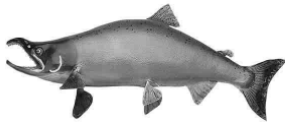
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## U.S. military heading to Maldives to assist with disaster recovery

BY DAVID ALLEN

Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — The U.S. military is extending its disaster relief effort in Sri Lanka to include the Republic of the Maldives.

Combined Support Group Sri Lanka announced Tuesday it's sending about 100 Marines and sailors and two Maritime Prepositioning Force ships to the island group to help recovery efforts after the Dec. 26 tsunami that swamped the low-lying islands.

The Maldives, a string of 1,192 coral atolls, is in the Indian Ocean about 300 miles southwest of India's southern tip. The ships and personnel were to arrive later this week to begin relief operations expected to last about a week, said Marine officials in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

The tsunami swamped up to 40 percent of the islands, which lie, on average, three feet above sea level. Of the 300,000 people who live there, 82 people were reportedly killed. The detachment's primary focus will be to provide fresh water, clear debris and distribute relief supplies in coordination with the Maldives government.

The ships, the MV 1st Lt. Jack Lummus and the MV 1st Lt. Alex

Bonnyman, are forward-deployed U.S. civilian cargo ships loaded with Marine equipment and supplies that can be used for humanitarian relief efforts, according to 1st Lt. Eric Tausch, task force spokesman. They also can store large amounts of fresh water.

The assistance response to the Maldives consists mainly of providing fresh drinking water," stated Brig. Gen. Frank Panter, commander of Combined Task Force Sri Lanka, in a news release. Sri Lanka has not needed the Marines' help in producing fresh water through reverse osmosis water purification units, he added.

The U.S. forces will coordinate the Maldives operation with French and British relief efforts already under way on the islands, the release stated.

Meanwhile, in Sri Lanka, the task force announced that a team of 35 U.S. Navy medical personnel will help a Jaffna hospital's staff care for over 9,000 displaced victims this week.

Tausch said the U.S. medical personnel will be in southern Sri Lanka for about 10 days, providing primary care for people injured or suffering from diarrhea, respiratory illnesses and skin ailments.

E-mail David Allen at: allenjd@pstripes.osd.mil





Two children pass by a Red Cross tent on the way to collect water at their refugee camp Saturday in Lampaya village on the outskirts of Banda Aceh, Indonesia. The United Nations lifted a travel ban Tuesday on tsunami aid workers in Indonesia's Aceh province, the scene of a decades-long conflict between government forces and separatist rebels that has raised concerns about the safety of relief efforts.

## U.N. lifts ban on aid workers

BY BURT HERMAN

The Associated Press

BANDA ACEH, Indonesia — The United Nations on Tuesday lifted a travel ban on aid workers in Indonesia's tsunami-battered Aceh province, the scene of a decades-long conflict between rebels and government forces that has raised concerns about the safety of relief efforts.

As aid work picked up speed in worst-hit Aceh province, even war-torn Afghanistan joined in the relief efforts, sending a 20-strong team including 12 military doctors who departed Kabul for Indonesia with medical equipment, blankets and dried fruit.

"It's a symbolic gesture," Defense Minister Abdul Rahim Wardak said of his nation's first-ever international relief mission. "We want to prove that once again we can be a useful member of the world community."

The United Nations imposed a

24-hour travel ban on its staff in parts of Aceh on Monday following reports that fighting had broken out between insurgents and the Indonesian army.

U.N. security consultant Werner Van den Berg said the world body decided not to renew the ban after speaking with Indonesian police in the coastal city of Lhoksumawe about reported fighting there.

Col. Nachrowi Djazairi, a spokesman for the Indonesian military in Banda Aceh, said he had received reports of a rebel attack on the road that apparently sparked Monday's fears, but had few further details.

The Free Aceh Movement rebels, who have been fighting for autonomy for the province since 1976, have dismissed Indonesian government allegations they would attack relief convoys to steal food for fighters.

Other aid groups and foreign troops helping in the mammoth relief effort in Aceh said they

were working as normal, and a U.S. military spokesman said American forces did not believe the security situation had changed in recent days.

"We're coordinating our force protection measures with the Indonesian government and taking appropriate security measures," U.S. Marine Capt. Joe Plenzler said. "We've been doing that since the start, it's nothing new."

Capt. Matt Klunder, Naval Air Wing 2 deputy commander, said U.S. helicopters were flying about 80 daily missions to Aceh. He said the destination those delivering aid witnessed in the first days after the disaster, when villagers often mobbed helicopters as soon as they touched down, had largely abated.

"Now there's a little more confidence because they know that on a somewhat regular basis we can get them foodstuffs and water," he said.

Associated Press writers Jim Gomez, Beth Gardner and Michael Casey in Banda Aceh contributed to this report.

## Adoption applications outnumber orphans

BY SHIMALI SENANAYAKE

The Associated Press

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka — Their plight has touched hearts around the world: children left parentless and homeless, their futures uncertain and bleak.

In the weeks since the tsunami claimed 31,000 Sri Lankan lives and tore apart a million more, adoption agencies here have been flooded with applications and inundated with telephone calls.

Couples who never thought before of adoption, celibate Buddhist priests and the even country's president himself have been eager to take in a tsunami-orphaned child.

The government's two main child protection institutions report 2,065 adoption applications — more than twice the number of children orphaned by the Dec. 26 disaster, according to estimates by the U.N. children's agency.

"There are not enough orphans to satisfy the number of tsunami adoption applicants," said Sarah Abeygunawardene, commissioner of the Child Care and Probation Department.

And the numbers keep growing.

"We have no kids of our own, and it seemed the best way to help," said Sushila Wijekoon, a doctor who has been working, along with her physician husband, in refugee camps in the southern region of Batticaloa.

Childless after seven years of marriage, they had never applied before, she said.

But authorities caution that a hasty adoption can harm the child and lead to unhappy families.

"The worst thing is to rush into adoptions," said Prof. Hendra de Silva, chief of the government National Child Protection Authority. "Some have applied for adoption in the heat of an emotional response to the tsunami."

De Silva said the first priority should be to trace surviving relatives, keeping the child within the extended family. "We won't even think of adoption for at least the next six months," he said.

"The issue of adoption should be put on the back-burner for the moment," said Ted Chabian, head of UNICEF in Sri Lanka.

Meanwhile, other problems — and horror stories — have emerged.

In a Buddhist temple in the south, police arrested a man who tried to sell his two granddaughters to foreigners after their mother was killed in the tsunami.

Villagers and religious clergy speak of grief-stricken mothers taking children off the street, trying to replace those they lost to the deadly waves.

In the eastern district of Ampara, nine desperate women are battling to claim a 3-month-old boy dubbed "Baby 81." The infant was found caked in mud on a beach by an old man and brought to a hospital — the 81st admission that day.

DNA tests are planned to determine whom, if any, among the nine women is the real mother — a process that is likely to take months.

Child trafficking in the guise of adoption is another concern, said Arun Tampu, a veteran child activist.

Whether for political capital or genuine concern, politicians are also saying they want to adopt.

President Chandrika Kumaratunga, an ethnic Sinhalese, said she would adopt a Tamil orphan, in an apparent gesture at national reconciliation between the two ethnic groups that fought for 20 years until a cease-fire was signed in 2002.

Under the current adoption law, a single parent like Kumaratunga, who is a widow, cannot adopt. But new legislation is being proposed to relax the rules.

Tampu, the child activist, worries that the interests of the child may be sacrificed in a hasty revision of the process.

The country's adoption process needs to "ensure transparency with proper physical and emotional assessment matching the child's needs with those of the prospective parents," Tampu said.

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## IN THE WORLD

## U.S. meets to discuss tsunami aftermath

BY JOSEPH COLEMAN  
The Associated Press

KOBE, Japan — The warning system worked perfectly. From sensors far offshore, Japanese meteorologists detected a tsunami headed toward the southern island of Ishigaki in March 2002 and quickly warned residents of the possible danger.

That's when things went wrong. Instead of heading to safety in the hills, islanders went to the beach to watch.

Fortunately, no one was hurt. But the incident recounted Tuesday by a Japanese expert at the opening of a United Nations conference illustrated the complexities of the meeting's most urgent task: laying the groundwork for a warning system that might have saved countless lives in southern Asia's tsunami disaster.

The Dec. 26 catastrophe was expected to dominate the five-day World Conference on Disaster Reduction, with experts and diplomats debating relief aid, the threat of disease and reconstruction in the vast zone of destruction.

The conference opened with a moment of silence for the 170,000 people killed in 11 countries. U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan, in a videotaped greeting, urged participants to make countries "more resilient" to natural disasters.

The tsunami was an unprecedented, global natural disaster, Annan said. "I think we are already seeing an unprecedented, global response."

In a series of meetings and workshops this week, experts plan to discuss such matters as protection of vital facilities like schools, hospitals and seawalls, construction of earthquake-proof buildings, strengthening of communication networks and local disaster management.

At the top of the agenda, however, was



Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi gives the host country statement Tuesday at the United Nations World Conference on Disaster Reduction in Kobe, Japan.

setting the stage for a tsunami early-warning network for the Indian Ocean similar to the one that now protects the Pacific. The U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization has proposed a system that would cost \$30 million and go into operation by mid-2006.

"What we need to have here is a strong commitment by countries and agencies," said Jan Egelund, U.N. undersecretary general for humanitarian affairs, adding that he hoped such systems could be extended to all disaster-prone regions in the next 10 years.

Egelund and others, however, acknowledged a warning system alone is not

enough. Also needed are quake-proof seawalls of sufficient height, detailed hazard maps showing danger areas, well-defined evacuation routes and shelters, a way to alert endangered people and education of coastal people about the dangers.

Fumihiko Imamura, a tsunami expert from Tohoku University, showed a videotape of Ishigaki islanders who gathered along the coast to witness the tsunami three years ago when they should have evacuated. While no one was injured, he said the case showed the limitations of warning systems.

"No matter the amount of information, the residents have to understand the impor-

ance of evacuation," he told a symposium on tsunami.

Another top concern is the communication of warnings from government agencies to people on the ground. Many of the areas hit by the Dec. 26 tsunami suffer from deep poverty and lack basic education and communication networks.

Residents should be educated about warning signs of impending tsunami — such as offshore earthquakes and suddenly receding seas — so they will know to evacuate on their own, said Laura Kong, director of UNESCO's International Tsunami Information Center in Honolulu.

"Many governments are talking about early warning systems. What is most important is to have an aware population, so that every citizen along a coastline knows what a tsunami is, knows the warning signs," she said.

The case of Japan is instructive of the challenges faced.

Despite the earthquake-prone country's long experience with tsunami and its highly advanced early warning system, Japan still lacks many of the essential elements of an effective defense.

Only 10 percent of local governments in Japan have hazard maps.

Nearly a third of seawalls along vulnerable coasts have not been tested for proper height and two-thirds of the breakwaters have not been checked for resilience against quakes.

It is unclear what shape the proposed Indian Ocean tsunami-warning system will take. An Asian regional summit next month also is expected to take up the topic.

In the meantime, Japan and the United States, the countries with the most advanced sensor systems in place, could provide tsunami warnings to countries around the Indian Ocean until their own system is in place, a Japanese official said last week.

## N. Korea: No need to reinvestigate location of kidnapped Japanese

The Associated Press

TOKYO — North Korea will not investigate the whereabouts of Japanese still missing after being abducted decades ago to teach the communist state's spies Japanese language and culture, Pyongyang's state media said Tuesday.

North Korea has acknowledged abducting 13 Japanese in the 1970s and 1980s. It has allowed five of the victims to return home in 2002. It says the other eight died, but Japan believes they, along with at least two other Japanese, may still be alive in the North.

North Korea agreed this year

to Japanese demands for an investigation into their whereabouts, but angered Tokyo when it allegedly handed over the bones and ashes of two people it said were kidnap victims only to have Japanese forensic tests show the remains belonged to several other people.

After announcing the test re-

sults, Tokyo filed a protest with Pyongyang last month and demanded it look again for the missing Japanese.

On Tuesday, the official North Korean news agency KCNA rebuffed this demand, quoting the Minju Joseon state-run newspaper as saying "there will be no reinvestigation into the issue."

The article accused Japanese "ultra-right reactionaries" of using the abduction issue to inflame opposition to the North and said Pyongyang would need to devise a new policy toward Tokyo. "As far as the relations with Japan are concerned, there should be only strong counteraction against it," the article said.

## Northern Japan quake

TOKYO — A magnitude 6.3 earthquake hit the northern Japanese island of Hokkaido on Tuesday, shaking computers and desks in offices but causing no injuries or substantial damage.

There was no danger of tsunami, or waves caused by seismicity, from the quake, the nation's Meteorological Agency said.

The quake, which struck shortly after 11 p.m., was centered about 30 miles under the seabed off the coast of Kushiro, about 550 miles northwest of Tokyo.

NHK television footage showed computers and books shaking on office desks in its Kushiro broadcast center.

From The Associated Press

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# Video claims to show dissent in N. Korea

BY SANG-HUN CHOE

The Associated Press

SEOUL — The shaking digital video camera scans a rundown factory wall, zooming in on what many outsiders would consider impossible in totalitarian North Korea. But the handwritten red-on-white poster is unmistakably clear: "Down with Kim Jong Il! People, let's all rise up and drive out the dictatorship!"

A South Korean human rights group on Tuesday revealed what it claimed to be the first video footage of dissident activity in North Korea.

The claim could not be independently verified, but North Korean defectors who

saw the tape said the footage was taken near the Chinese border in Hoeryong town.

The 35-minute tape was made in November by one of 10 purported underground anti-government organizations in North Korea to let the outside world know of its campaign against the brutal communist dictatorship, the South Korean group said. "Why is Kim Jong Il so intent on blocking reform and openness?" said a leader of the North Korean group Youth Solidarity for Freedom in a spoken statement recorded on the videotape.

"People, let's stage both violent and non-violent struggles," it said. "It's a legitimate struggle if you refuse to go to work when

your factory does not provide food and living allowances."

The statement urged North Koreans to wake up on the "personality cult that has made us fools."

If verified, the footage would be the first concrete evidence of political unrest in the isolated North. There have been occasional reports of armed rebellion, food riots and anti-government leaflets, but they cannot be independently confirmed.

There was speculation that footage of two anti-government posters — hung on an abandoned factory wall and a bridge — may have been staged. But the South Korean group said it was real.

"We stand by its authenticity. This

shows that the people who made the videotape were daring and organized enough to do this kind of highly risky work," said Do Hee-yoon, head of the Seoul-based Civil Coalition for Human Rights of the Kidnapped and Defectors from North Korea.

Such an act is punishable by death in the North, he said.

Do said his group obtained the tape through an intermediary in China in early December.

He said that his information on the North Korean group was limited, but that "outside forces" are helping Northern dissidents expand their operations from provinces near the borders with China and Russia — a traditional anti-government hotbed — deeper into the country and even to the capital, Pyongyang.



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# Airbus 'reaches for stars' with giant jet

BY LAURENCE FROST

The Associated Press

TOULOUSE, France — Airbus showed off its giant A380, a double-decked behemoth that could revolutionize long-haul flying, at a lavish ceremony Tuesday with European leaders gathered for the first official look at the world's largest passenger plane.

Airbus is betting its newfound status as the world's leading jet maker on the "super-jumbo" that has an 262-foot wingspan, a tail as tall as a seven-story building and cost billion \$13 billion to develop.

The leaders of France, Britain, Germany and Spain — Airbus' government backers — and CEOs from the 14 airlines and freight transporters that have ordered A380s attended the elaborate ceremony at company headquarters in Toulouse, southern France.

"We may have reached for the stars ... but as far as the aeronautical industry is concerned we caught some of those stars," said German Chancellor Gerhard Schröder, who called the A380 a "triumph of European science and European engineering."

French President Jacques Chirac said "this veritable liner of the skies will mark aviation history," while British Prime Minister Tony Blair praised the A380 as the "only commercial plane designed from the outset to minimize the impact on the envi-



Airbus employees throw their caps in the air next to the new Airbus A380 on Tuesday after its unveiling ceremony, near Toulouse, southwestern France. The A380 double-decked superjumbo jet is the world's largest passenger plane.

ronment." The show before almost 5,000 guests included music, clouds of dry ice and dancers in the A380 assembly hangar, one of the largest enclosed spaces in Europe.

The A380's launch seemed certain to become a milestone in civil aviation history

alongside the 747 and Concorde. Unlike the supersonic Concorde, however, whose claim to fame was how fast it crossed the Atlantic, this latest fruit of European aerospace cooperation ultimately will be judged on how fast it makes money.

Airbus already has 149 orders for the

\$280 million plane, "which for a plane of this size that has not yet flown is an extraordinary commercial performance," CEO Noel Forgeard said.

Airbus says companies have options on dozens more and that the program will break even after 250 sales — an objective it hopes to reach within three years.

"At the end of the day, the A380 will be a very successful airplane," said Jon Ash, president of InterVISTAS-ga2, a Washington-based aviation consulting firm.

Ash said the A380 will be an enticing aircraft for carriers on long-haul, high-density markets, whereas the 747 will be a "viable alternative" to other carriers.

Airbus hopes to sell 750 superjumbos to airlines operating services between the busiest airports, mainly in Asia, which serve as hubs, or stopovers between connecting flights.

In a three-class cabin layout, the A380 will carry 555 passengers — 33 percent more than the 747. The A380 has 49 percent more floor space — leaving additional room for features such as on-board shops, bars, casinos or even nurseries.

Singapore Airlines will begin using the plane for service to London and Sydney when it becomes the first carrier to carry commercial passengers aboard the A380 in mid-2006, Cheng Choon Seng, CEO of Singapore Airlines, said.

## Photos indicate probe landed in Titan mud

BY MELISSA EDDY

The Associated Press

FRANKFURT, Germany — The Huygens probe twisted and spun as it tumbled to Titan's muddy surface, European scientists said Tuesday, revealing animated pictures of the final yards of its descent.

The latest images underline the belief that Huygens landed at the shoreline of what appears to be large body of liquid when it ended a seven-year journey, reaching Saturn's largest moon Friday.

Scientists at the European Space Agency are scrambling to determine the exact spot where the probe came to rest on Titan's mysterious, frozen surface.

One photo released Tuesday showed a large body of liquid — possibly liquid methane — jutting into what appeared to be rough, frozen terrain, with the probe appearing to be just yards from the shoreline.

Another series of photos showed how Titan's hazy atmosphere gave way to a more solid, but clearly varied surface as the probe tumbled and spun toward its final resting place.

"There wasn't even a glitch at impact. That landing was a lot

friendlier than we had anticipated," Charles See, a scientist who has been studying the images, said in a release from ESA.

In addition to the soft landing, material that appears to have accumulated on the camera lens in the final images suggests the weight of the 705-pound probe may have pulled it into the muddy surface.

About 30 scientists are working to recreate the probe's descent to Titan's surface in an effort to determine wind speeds and chemical makeup of Titan's atmosphere.

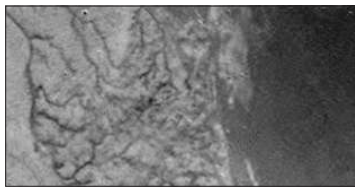
Cassini carried Huygens into space and ejected it on Christmas Day. The orbiter also played a key role in picking up the probe's transmission and relaying the telemetry to NASA, which passed the data to ESA.

Scientists said Tuesday they were surprised the probe rocked so much during its descent, tilting at least 10 to 20 degrees during its descent from the high-altitude haze.

"The ride was bumpier than we thought it would be," said Marty Tomasko of the Lunar and Planetary Laboratory at the University of Arizona in Tucson, who heads the imaging team.

Huygens, named after Titan's discoverer, the 17th century Dutch astronomer Christian Huygens, carried instruments to explore Titan's atmosphere. It will take years for scientists to fully process the information collected during the probe's 2 1/2-hour descent.

Titan is the only moon in the solar system known to have a significant atmosphere. Rich in nitrogen and containing about 6 percent methane, its atmosphere is believed to be 1 1/2 times thicker than Earth's.



ESA/NASA/ASP

This image from Huygen's descent on to Saturn's moon Titan apparently shows short, stubby drainage channels leading to a shoreline.

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## Pope, Jewish leaders meet

VATICAN CITY — Pope John Paul II called for renewed commitment to stronger dialogue between Jews and Catholics as he warmly received more than 100 Jewish leaders, rabbis, cantors and their family members Tuesday in what was described as the largest such Vatican audience with Jewish representatives.

Most of the participants were from the United States, including a large contingent from the New York metropolitan area, but there were also Jews from Israel, France, India, Canada and Croatia among the group wanting to thank the pontiff for his dedication in improving relations between Jews and Catholics.

From The Associated Press

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# Iraq to seal borders, impose curfew for vote

## U.S. deaths in Iraq

The Associated Press

As of Monday, at least 1,366 members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. At least 1,071 died as a result of hostile action, the Defense Department said. The figures include three military civilians.

The AP count is eight higher than the Defense Department's tally, last updated at 10 a.m. Friday.

The British military has reported 76 deaths; Italy, 19; Poland, 16; Ukraine, 16; Spain, 11; Bulgaria, seven; Slovakia, three; Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, El Salvador, Hungary, Latvia and Kazakhstan one death each.

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,228 U.S. military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 962 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

The latest deaths reported by the military:

■ A soldier who injured Sunday when his vehicle flipped into a canal in western Baghdad died on Monday.

■ Two Marines were killed Monday in Anbar province.

The latest identifications reported by military:

■ Army Sgt. Nathaniel T. Swindell, 24, New York, died Saturday in Mosul, Iraq, from a non-combat injury; assigned to the 1st Battalion, 24th Infantry Regiment, Fort Lewis, Wash.

## Militants gun down three Shiite political candidates

BY BASSEM MROUE

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Gunmen shot and killed three candidates running in Iraq's Jan. 30 elections, officials said Tuesday, as a suicide bombing killed two people outside the offices of a leading Shiite political party.

With insurgents trying to ruin the election, officials announced that Iraq will seal its borders, extend a curfew and restrict movement to protect voters during the balloting. President Bush spoke Tuesday morning with Iraqi interim Prime Minister Ayad Allawi, the latest in a series of conversations between the two leaders on Iraq's efforts to ensure maximum participation in the election.

Meanwhile, A Task Force Baghdad soldier was killed Tuesday in a roadside bombing, the U.S. command said. The blast occurred about 8:25 a.m., the command said. It gave no further details.

Two of the slain candidates belonged to Allawi's political coalition, the Iraqi National Accord, a member of the group said.

Alaa Hamid, who was running for the 275-member National Assembly, was shot dead Monday in the southern part of city of Basra in front of his family, the official said on condition of anonymity. Hamid also was the deputy chairman of the Iraqi Olympic Committee in Basra.

Riad Radi, who was running in the local race for Basra's provincial council on a list supported by Al-

lawi's INC, was killed Sunday when masked gunmen fired on his car as he was driving with his family, the official said.

In Baghdad on Monday, masked gunmen shot dead another candidate, Shaker Jabbar Sahla, a Shiite Muslim who was running in the National Assembly election for the Constitutional Monarchy Movement. The party is headed by Sharif Ali bin Hussein, a cousin of Iraq's late king.

Tuesday's suicide car bombing in Baghdad gouged a crater in the pavement, left several vehicles in flames and spread shredded debris on the street outside the offices of the Supreme Council for the Islamic Revolution in Iraq, a main contender in the election.

The Shiite party, known as SCIRI, has close ties to Iran and is strongly opposed by Sunni Muslim militants. The assailant told guards at a checkpoint leading to the party's office that he was part of SCIRI's security staff, and he detonated his bomb-laden car at the guard post when he was not allowed to enter.

Iraqi police officials reported the bomber and two others were dead and nine people were injured, including the Shiite police.

"SCIRI will not be frightened by such an act," party spokesman Ridha Jawad said. "SCIRI will continue the march toward building Iraq, establishing justice and holding the elections."

Associated Press reporters Susan Salameh and Abbas Fayadh contributed to this report.

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## Catholic archbishop kidnapped in Iraq released unharmed

BY VICTOR L. SIMPSON

The Associated Press

VATICAN CITY — A Catholic archbishop kidnapped in Iraq was released Tuesday without payment of ransom, the Vatican said. The prelate said his kidnappers didn't realize who he was when they abducted him a day earlier in the northern city of Mosul.

Archbishop Basile Georges Casmoossa was back resting in his home shortly after his 19-hour-long kidnapping ended and told Vatican Radio he had not been mistreated.

"I suspected that they kidnapped me thinking I was another person," Casmoossa told reporters in Mosul. "They were kind with me and told me that I will be released very soon."

It was not immediately clear if Casmoossa was wearing clerical garb when he was captured just after he came out of the home of a parishioner Monday evening in Mosul.

Casmoossa was quoted as telling the Italian news agency ANSA that he thought Pope John Paul II's strong appeal on behalf was a "decisive factor" in his release. The Vatican had called the abduction a "despicable terrorist act" and demanded that the kidnappers free him immediately.

"I am truly, and like a son, grateful to the pope, by whom I felt strongly supported in this very new situation for me," Casmoossa was quoted as telling ANSA. "The kidnappers themselves told me this morning about



Archbishop Basile Georges Casmoossa

his appeal, which I maintain was a decisive factor in my liberation."

The pontiff, who had prayed for the bishop's release, was informed immediately of the good news, said papal spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls.

"He helped his prayer to one of thanks," he said.

The kidnappers initially demanded a \$200,000 ransom but then released the bishop without any payment, the Vatican said.

Casmoossa, a 66-year-old Iraqi, is from the Syrian Catholic Church, one of the branches of the Roman Catholic Church.

"I think that my kidnapping was a coincidence," the archbishop told Vatican Radio. "It doesn't seem to me that they wanted to strike at the Church per se."

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# From mortar to mocha — almost

## Bare-bones coffeehouse in Iraq still bears marks of attack

BY JOSEPH GIORDONO

Stars and Stripes

**FORWARD OPERATING BASE RAMADI, Iraq** — Soldiers from the 2nd Battalion, 17th Field Artillery Regiment have taken a near tragedy and turned it into a steaming cup of comfort.

In late October, shortly after the battalion arrived in Ramadi with the rest of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team from South Korea, a single mortar round slammed into the roof of a concrete building in their headquarters compound.

The mortar, which struck in the middle of the day, tore a gaping hole in the concrete and sent shrapnel spraying into the walls.

"Every door around here was blown open, except for the one in my office, which was already open," said 1st Lt. Ed Kaspar, recalling the attack.

Out of sheer luck, nobody was inside the building — which was used as the battalion's logistics office — when the round struck. Smoke poured from the room, soldiers recall, and everything inside the office was destroyed.

For weeks, the office sat vacant. But now, the battalion has turned it into what might be the best-stocked coffeehouse on a U.S. base in Iraq — complete with a natural "skylight" where the mortar round hit.

Inside is a trio of salvaged leather chairs, a table made from a wooden cable spool and a bar fashioned out of plywood. Scores

of coffee packets, tea bags, coffee pots, grinders and other accessories line a pair of shelves built into the walls. A compact disc player with small speakers plays music, and a shelf above the door is piled with books.

The coffee is largely provided by soldiers who receive it in care packages from the States. The coffeehouse, like so many other small touches that U.S. servicemen have dreamed up on bases throughout Iraq, is meant to give soldiers a break from the reality of their missions. It's a far cry from an upscale coffee bar back home, but it does its job, soldiers said.

"We're getting about 15 people a day that come in here now, but once we really get it going and get some people in here, we'll open it up to the whole brigade," said Kaspar, a 32-year-old from Oxnard, Calif.

On Sunday afternoon, Capt. Colin Williams, a 28-year-old civil affairs officer from Owego, N.Y., stopped in for a cup of coffee. Drinking from a white mug emblazoned with the words "Operation Iraqi Freedom," Williams shot the breeze with the others for a few minutes, then went back to work.

If the soldiers get their wish, the budding coffeehouse could see more improvements.

"We're hoping to get a sponsor to send us some good coffee," Kaspar said. "And our biggest hope is a cappuccino machine."

E-mail Joseph Giordono at: [giordono@jstps.com](mailto:giordono@jstps.com)  
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JOSEPH GIORDONO/Stars and Stripes

Capt. Colin Williams, left, and 1st Lt. Ed Kaspar chat over a cup of coffee in the 2nd Battalion, 17th Field Artillery's new coffee shop at a U.S. base Sunday in Ramadi, Iraq.

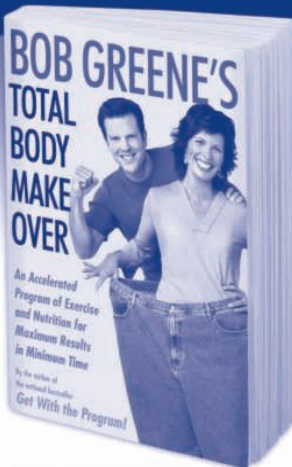
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## IN THE STATES

## Rice faces critics at confirmation hearing



Secretary of State-designate Condoleezza Rice testifies on Capitol Hill on Tuesday before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee hearing on her nomination.

By ANNE GEARAN  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Secretary of State nominee Condoleezza Rice told senators on Tuesday that a U.S. exit strategy from Iraq is "directly proportional" to Iraq's ability to defend itself against terrorists after this month's elections.

Stepping out from her largely behind-the-scenes role as President Bush's national security adviser, Rice said she could not give Congress a timetable for American disengagement.

"The goal is to get the mission accomplished," she said. "We're right now focused on security for the (Jan. 30) election."

In an echo of Bush's "axis of evil," Rice named Cuba, Myanmar, Belarus and Zimbabwe as "outposts of tyranny" requiring close U.S. attention.

Early in Bush's first term, he listed Iraq, Iran and North Korea as part of an "axis of evil" in the post-Sept. 11 era; the United States later invaded Iraq, ousting longtime dictator Saddam Hussein.

"To be sure, in our world there remain outpost of tyranny and America stands with oppressed people on every continent ... in Cuba, and Burma (Myanmar), and North Korea, and Iran, and Belarus, and Zimbabwe," Rice said.

Rice told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that spreading democracy through the Middle East remains a top administration foreign-policy objective.

The Palestinian election earlier this month following the death of Yasser Arafat offers "a moment of opportunity," she said. But Rice also said Palestinian leaders need to do more to end acts of terrorism against Israel, saying peace hopes will be dashed if violence continues.

She raised the possibility that Bush might name an envoy to the Palestinians, but said timing was an issue. "No one has objections in principle" to such an envoy, she said, but Rice added that "it is a question over whether that is appropriate" at this time.

Rice pledged Tuesday to work to

mend and strengthen ties with allies frayed by Iraq. "The time for diplomacy is now," she told senators at her hearing to replace Colin Powell as secretary of state.

"The time for diplomacy is long overdue," retorted Sen. Joseph Biden, the senior Democrat on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. He told her the United States is "paying a heavy price" for the administration's policy in Iraq.

Despite pointed questioning from Biden and other committee Democrats, Senate confirmation of Rice — Bush's most trusted foreign-policy confidante — was all but assured.

Rice insisted that the administration's actions in the aftermath of the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks — including wars in Afghanistan and Iraq — were "difficult, and necessary and right."

"If I am confirmed, public diplomacy will be a top priority for me and for the professionals I lead," Rice said in an apparent attempt to ease concerns of those who suggested Bush's foreign policy was too unilateral and unaccommodating over the past four years.

## Arctic temperatures take toll on Northeast

By BEN DOBBIN  
The Associated Press

ROCHESTER, N.Y. — A deep Arctic freeze refused to relinquish its grip over the Northeast and Midwest early Tuesday, keeping teeth chattering and temperatures at bone-chilling lows. At least three weekend deaths were blamed on the cold in Michigan.

After a relatively mild winter in the Northeast, brisk winds made it feel as cold as minus-20 degrees in western New York and minus-45 degrees in the Adirondacks in northern New York.

"To some people this is quite a shock, but much of our hardy upstate population is used to this.

They knew it would come eventually," Buffalo's chief meteorologist, Tom Niziol, said Monday.

Cold air rushing over Lake Ontario and Lake Erie produced as much as 14 inches of snowfall in ski-resort communities in western and central New York.

The cold blast will extend through Tuesday, with temperatures spiking as high as 30 degrees Wednesday. "Then we go back into a deep freeze for the end of the week with temperatures not making it out of the teens," Niziol said.

Temperatures were well below normal Tuesday across Michigan, the National Weather Service said. Detroit Metropolitan Airport, where the normal low is 17 degrees, had an early Tuesday reading of 1 degree.



Don Kozak uses a snowblower to clear his driveway Monday in North Kingsville, Ohio. An Arctic freeze is blanketing an area reaching from the Northeast down to north Florida — where temperatures were in the high 20s Tuesday morning.

## Ex-Army doctor will seek parole

By MARTHA WAGGONER  
The Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — This highly publicized murder case was recounted in a best-selling book, "Fatal Vision," and a television miniseries. Now, for the first time since he became eligible for parole in 1991, former Army doctor Jeffrey MacDonald intends to seek his freedom, a lawyer says.

MacDonald, convicted 25 years ago of the stabbing deaths of his pregnant wife and two daughters, had declined to seek parole because he said he would have to admit guilt for the slayings at the family's Fort Bragg apartment Feb. 17, 1970.

He remarried a few years ago and has more reasons to want a life outside of prison, said his attorney, Tim Junkin of Potomac, Md.

"He doesn't have any kind of change of heart. He's going to try to vindicate himself," Junkin said in a telephone interview Monday. "He knows in his heart he's innocent, and will always insist on that."

Junkin said he didn't know when the request was filed with the U.S. Parole Commission and said he would not disclose when or where the hearing would be held.

Newsweek, which first reported the parole request in its issue this week, said the hearing would be in February. The magazine quoted Christina Masevich, a retired nurse who had written a book about the case and obtained a federal document confirming the hearing.

MacDonald, 61, is in the federal prison in Cumberland, Md., where he is serving three life terms for the slayings of his wife, Collette, 26, and daughters Kimberley, 6, and Kristen, 2.

He married a longtime friend, Kathryn Kurich, in 2002.

## Supreme Court sidesteps Guantanamo Bay case

By GINA HOLLAND  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court on Tuesday dodged a dispute over the government's plans to conduct military trials for Osama bin Laden's former driver and other foreign terror suspects, avoiding another clash over the president's powers.

Justices were asked to decide if the Bush administration is trying to shortcut the rights of non-Americans facing trials at the Guantanamo Bay Navy base in Cuba. They declined, without comment.

The court's intervention would have been unusual because an appeals court also is considering the issue and has scheduled argu-

ments March 8. Lawyers for Salim Ahmed Hamdan — a Yemeni charged with conspiracy to commit war crimes, murder and terrorism — tried to speed things up by bypassing that court and filing the Supreme Court appeal.

About 550 detainees from 40 countries are being held as enemy combatants at Guantanamo Bay. So far only four detainees, including Hamdan, have been charged. The Bush administration had been accused by civil rights groups of doing too little to ensure the planned trials are fair.

At issue in the latest case was the government's strategy in holding special military trials, in which defendants do not have the same rights as those in regular courts.

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# President Bush has 'a big agenda in mind'

BY NEDRA PICKLER

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — As President Bush prepares to take office for a second term this week, he says he is worried that people "kind of write me off" before he can get things done.

Bush said Monday he has "a big agenda in mind," which includes his campaign promises to overhaul Social Security and the legal liability system; improve the tax code, school standards and the budget process; and make health care accessible to more Americans.

He acknowledges that four years is not a lot of time to get it all done but says he hopes Republicans and Democrats can unite now that all of his campaigns are behind him.

"The good news is I'm not running again, so maybe politics won't creep in quite as much," he told CBS News during a round of network interviews Monday afternoon. "We got to get moving and get some things done before — before people kind of write me off."

Bush said unity across party lines will be the most important message in his inaugural address.

"I have a responsibility to try to unite this country to achieve big things for all Americans," Bush told ABC News. "I will say that in my inaugural address. I'm looking forward to the challenge."

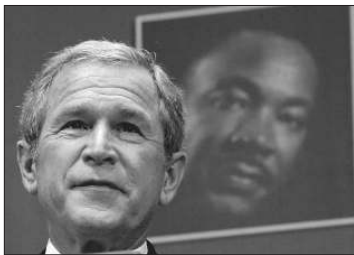
Before the president delivers his State of the Union address, Iraqis will hold the first elections for their new government, but turnout is expected to be limited by the threat of violence at the polls. Bush said the elections are proving to be "a little bumpy," but the fact that they are being held at all is a success.

"The fact that there's a vote is fantastic," Bush told NBC News.

"I think having a vote is important to them. They're staying away because of fear, not because they don't want to vote," he said.

This is just step one of a series of important steps toward an emergence of a democratic Iraq, and America will be more secure in the long run."

Asked on the "Today" show whether it would be more diffi-



President Bush speaks at Georgetown University's "Let Freedom Ring" celebration honoring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts on Monday in Washington. Later that day, Bush gave a series of interviews to network television programs, outlining his plans for the next four years.

cult now to launch a pre-emptive attack against a country deemed to represent a threat, Bush said, "We hope we don't have to. But if

we had to, to protect America, you know if all else failed and we needed force to protect the citizens of the United States, I would

do so. But my hope is we never have to do that again."

On concerns about the possibility that Iran could pose such a threat with a nuclear weapons capability, the president said, "I hope we can solve it diplomatically but I will never take any option off the table."

Besides Bush's swearing in on Thursday, the inaugural week festivities include a salute to America's military and several lavish balls.

Bush said he does not agree with critics who say all the pomp is excessive in a time of war and with last month's devastating tsunami.

"I've never been much of a dancer, and the idea of going to 11 balls might be viewed as excessive," he joked on CBS.

Bush said it is important to celebrate a "peaceful transfer of power" and that he suspects inaugural guests will be generous in donating to tsunami victims. "You can be equally concerned about our troops in Iraq and those who suffered at the tsunami with celebrating democracy," he said.

## Command post brings 50 agencies together on inaugural security

BY CURT ANDERSON

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Far from the Capitol building where President Bush will take the oath of office, dozens of officials from 50 federal, state and local agencies will work side by side in a high-tech command center keeping close tabs on the security situation for the first presidential inauguration since the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks.

At 120 work stations in the northern Virginia center and using giant video screens, law enforcement and security personnel will be able to watch from cameras that monitor downtown Washington streets, keep track of aerial surveillance flights and check sensors scanning for evidence of deadly biological or chemical agents.

"If there is a piece of technology that exists, we've put it to use for this event," said Jim Rice, the FBI supervisory agent for Thursday's inauguration.

For the first time, all the federal agencies that deal with security, law enforcement and crisis response will be housed in a single Joint Field Office. Also new for this presidential inauguration, federal agencies will be under the command of a "principal federal official" reporting directly to Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge.

For this event, that officer is Tim Koerner, a top deputy in the Secret Service, which is the lead agency for the inaugural security effort.

The idea is to improve coordination among the various federal agencies, especially if there is a terrorist attack or other major disruption and there is an immediate need for such things as medical attention for casualties, hostage rescue or SWAT teams and investigative specialists such as FBI bomb technicians.

Law enforcement officials say that locating all officials under one roof will eliminate confusion and duplication, as well as enable them to quickly determine whether there is a real threat or problem or if it's just a false alarm.

"When an incident first happens, in the first 30 minutes, probably about 75 percent of the information you get is wrong," Rice said. "Being able to look the guy in the eye that you're talking to, that eliminates a lot of problems."

The field office will command Coast Guard cutters and helicopters, canine bomb-sniffing units, customs aircraft, bicycle patrols, crowd control and a host of other security and law enforcement assets.

Immigration, terrorism and criminal databases will be closely watched for any suspicious matches of people arriving in the United States or placed under arrest somewhere in the country. Commercial air traffic will be watched closely.

The centralized command center should also help with the roughly 2,000 out-of-town police officers — the largest group of reinforcements ever brought in for the swearing-in — who began arriving in Washington on Tuesday to aid the inauguration.



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# Mass. clergy child rape trial set to begin

BY DENISE LAVOIE  
The Associated Press

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — Prosecutors formally dropped an accusation from the criminal case against defrocked priest Paul Shanley, leaving just one alleged victim to testify in the trial that began Tuesday for one of the most notorious figures in the clergy sex abuse scandal.

Prosecutors already had dropped two other accusers from the case, and removed the third because they have been unable to find him since a hearing in October when he had difficulty re-

## Defrocked priest Shanley accused of molesting parishioner

maining composed to testify. The move to drop him from the case was expected.

The witness' removal leaves Shanley, 73, facing three charges of raping a child and two charges of indecent assault and battery on a child. The maximum sentence would be life in prison.

About 80 prospective jurors were questioned Tuesday for the trial that is expected to last about two weeks. Four jurors — three men and one woman — were se-

led by mid-afternoon.

Shanley's lawyer, Frank Mondano, had made it clear he will argue that the lone remaining accuser made up his story of abuse to win a monetary award in a civil lawsuit.

The trial is one of a handful of criminal cases that prosecutors have been able to bring against priests accused of molesting their young parishioners decades ago.

Most of the priests accused in civil lawsuits have avoided criminal

prosecution because the alleged crimes were committed so long ago that charges were barred by the statute of limitations.

But because Shanley moved out of Massachusetts, the clock stopped, allowing prosecutors to arrest him in May 2002 for sexual abuse that allegedly took place between 1979 and 1989.

Internal church documents showed church officials knew about allegations against him as

early as 1967 yet continued to transfer him from parish to parish. Shanley, once a long-haired priest in blue jeans who reached out to Boston's troubled youth in the late '60s, was defrocked by the Vatican in 2004.

His accusers told stories of being taken out of religious education classes and raped by Shanley in the church rectory, confessional and restroom.

All of the alleged victims settled civil lawsuits with the Boston Archdiocese in April 2004.

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## FACES

# 'Gentle giant' man off screen

Jorge Garcia: a cool, collected survivor on ABC's 'Lost'

BY DANIEL FIENBERG  
Zap2it.com

The plucky survivors of ABC's "Lost" could serve as a casebook for how most people would respond to being stranded on a deserted (and mysterious) island. Some folks would be as handy and altruistic as Matthew Fox's Jack or as malevolently resourceful as Josh Holloway's Sawyer. Few of us would show the eerie mastery of Terry O'Quinn's Locke, but the reluctant brattiness of Maggie Grace's Shannon would probably be in abundance. For most viewers, though, emulating Jorge Garcia's Hurley would be the best of all possible worlds.

Like the subject of Rudyard Kipling's "If," Hurley has kept his head when all about him are losing theirs. Like that poem's ideal hero, he doesn't necessarily look too good nor talk too wise, but on the fractus island, he's a friend to all and an enemy to none, a gentle giant perfectly willing to do hard labor, deskwork or even invent a liberating game of island golf. It's no wonder that while Fox and Holloway and Evangeline Lilly (Kate) may get the press, Garcia has broken out as one of the show's most popular stars.

"I feel like suddenly I get a bit better customer service, where people are more anxious to help me," Garcia says of his public reception. "Usually when people spot me, they're really happy to see me."

While the other characters on "Lost" constantly appear grimy and miserable, stressed out and on the verge of giving up, Hurley always just seems happy to be alive. He's quick with a joke, the only outcast who could possibly be described as happy-go-lucky. Garcia seems to be the same way. The 25-year-old actor arrived at auditions for "Lost" before the character of Hurley even existed and found himself reading pages for Sawyer.

Even once producers assured him that his character would exist and that copies of the pilot script were available, the actor wasn't in any kind of rush to see how many lines he got or whether he'd get to have any big emotional moments. Most familiar from comedic work on "Becker" and "Curb Your Enthusiasm," Garcia had all the information he needed.

"I had faith in J.J. Abrams and shooting in Hawaii, and that was pretty much all I needed to hear," he said with a laugh.

For the first half of the shooting schedule, production has just been wish fulfillment for the Nebraska-born actor.

"I love what I've gotten to do so far," he says. "The whole thing where I ran away from the plane and it exploded behind me and we dove out in the sand, very action star-ish. I thought that was awesome. That's not something I really expected that I would get to do in my career."

Garcia notes, "Really all I need is a sword fight and I'll be totally satisfied."

Viewers, however, are far from satisfied with the mere snippets of knowledge they've received about the life of Hugo Reyes. While certain characters, including Fox's Jack, have already had multiple episodes dedicated to their backstories, Hurley has gone entirely unexplained, barring some cryptic hints. That won't change until the season's 18th hour, an episode which hasn't even been shot yet. Garcia, in fact, hasn't even seen a script, though the producers have let him in on the character's "big secret." Whatever that secret may be, Garcia isn't telling.

"Because there were hints laid out, I kinda had an idea that it was coming from here," he hedges, revealing nothing of his backstory.

"And then when I really stepped back and looked at it in the context of who Hurley has been up to this

point, with the group, and that coming out in his revelation. Yeah, I thought it was pretty cool."

On the Internet, ways have been proposed for weeks over a perplexing line of dialogue where Hurley refers to his normal life by saying, "I'm known as something of a warrior myself," a statement that has prompted buzz that Hurley could be everything from an extremely large undercover spy to an extremely dedicated Dungeons and Dragons player.

"There are certain things where you never realize what exactly the audience is going to jump on and really wonder about and catch," Garcia says of his "warrior" comment. "I didn't give that one too much attention and then I realized the attention it got on the Internet. So it made me wonder, 'Yeah, actually I wonder what that is.'"

He adds that in the script, the character smiles after making the statement, but the camera never cut back to his face.

As much of a conspiracy buff as he may be, Garcia isn't stressing out about solving the riddles of "Lost." Like his character, he's just content where he is, taking his off-days to swim at a favorite secluded Hawaiian beach.

"I float in the water and reflect on how great my life is right now," Garcia says with a sigh.



Jorge Garcia plays Hurley on "Lost."

Courtesy of ABC

## Following in MLK's footsteps

When Harry Belafonte met the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. in the 1950s, he promised to always assist in his mission.

Thirty-seven years after King's death, the actor, singer and activist is still keeping his pledge.

Belafonte met with a group of about 60 people, many of them children, during a celebration of King's life at a Boys and Girls Club. He said the 13 years he worked side-by-side with the civil rights leader were "the most important of my life."

"Each and every one of you has the power, the will and the capacity to make a difference in the world in which you live in," Belafonte said. "You should go through life knowing, 'I am somebody.'"

Freedom was the theme of many questions posed by the kids, and one query left the 77-year-old Belafonte particularly reflective.

How does it feel to be free? asked 10-year-old Shawn Gordon. Answered Belafonte: "When I get it, I will tell you."

## Stylish even in death

Samuel L. Jackson dies in his next huge film—but he does it in a really cool way.

Director George Lucas assured the actor that his Jedi knight character would go out in a blaze of glory in the forthcoming "Star Wars: Episode III—Revenge of the Sith," and the director apparently made good on his promise.

"It's rousing," Jackson told the San Francisco Chronicle. "It's a great light-saber battle with 102 men in three big rooms."

For now, though, Jackson is enjoying the success of his "Coach Carter," in which he stars as a real-life high-school basketball mentor who shuts down the program to focus on his players' lagging academic education.

## Kirstie Alley exploits the fat facts

The person who dreamed up a TV series about Kirstie Alley's embarrassing battle with her weight and struggles inside the Hollywood fishbowl might be surprising.

It was Kirstie Alley.

"Actually, the show was my idea," she told the Rocky Mountain News in Denver. "It was sort of like I could either die—slit my throat, knowing that I could not work for a year or however long it would take to lose the weight—or I could make a series. You know, go with the flow and turn this into something fabulous."

Alley admits friends warned the former star of "Cheers" and "Veronica's Closet" that doing the upcoming Showtime series "Fat Actress" would be show-business suicide.

"I didn't listen. I believe that things will work out when you're honest about something and find humor in situations," she said.

Stories and photos from wire services

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# It was a red carpet showdown at the Globes



Joan and Melissa Rivers

BY BETH HARRIS  
The Associated Press

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. — Star Jones Reynolds promised to gush and did, profusely, outside the Beverly Hilton hotel on E! Entertainment Television's red carpet coverage at the Golden Globes.

Over on the TV Guide Channel, Joan and Melissa Rivers reprised their sharp-edged roles, with Joan Rivers, predictably, committing some of her famous flubs.

For the first time, viewers had a choice of contrasting styles in the two-hour coverage Sunday night of the stars' glamorous arrivals at the annual awards show. The Rivers women jumped ship at E! last year to sign with the TV Guide Channel. E! then signed Jones Reynolds to replace them.

E! said preliminary ratings were up markedly over 2003, the last time the Globes faced competition from NFL playoff games. The cable network went commer-

cial-free in its second hour and claimed a resounding victory over TV Guide Channel, which is in 9 million fewer homes.

TV Guide Channel said its ratings were up 164 percent from last year, when its target preshow aired the day after the Globes. Joan and Melissa hosted a "Pushion Wrap" special Monday night. Final pre-show ratings were unavailable Monday because of the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

The mother-daughter duo



Star Jones Reynolds

made their TV Guide Channel debut walking in behind the University of Southern California Trojan marching band in a pre-taped bit.

"We're back!" Joan Rivers said, leaning over to kiss the carpet and purr: "I missed you so much."

Joan took a friendly poke at the competition when she told viewers, "Who am I? I am the real star Joan. We are back where we belong, dammit, on the red carpet."

Melissa Rivers explained money was the reason they left "the other network."

In the run-up to the show, Jones Reynolds had said she was going to gush, and did just that.

She called Morgan Freeman "one of the greatest living actors of our time. I'm not supposed to gush." When Tim Robbins stopped by, she told him, "I have to not gush. You know they yell at me when I gush."

Jones Reynolds was joined on E! by correspondent Kathy Griffin.

The comic and reality show veteran shook things up with outrageous questions and one-liners. Griffin joked that 10-year-old actress Dakota Fanning had gone into rehab that day; asked Jeffrey Tambor of Fox's "Arrested Development" if he had any "weed," and grilled Michael Chiklis of FX's "The Shield" in front of his wife whether they wanted to swap spouses and if he had ever gotten a hooker at the hotel. He answered no to both queries.

Griffin described Nicole Kidman as being "wasted" — and that's when Jones Reynolds jumped in.

"You are so bad," she scolded Griffin. "Do not say anything mean against Nicole. She is my queen of the glammies."

Jones Reynolds told The Associated Press on Monday she tried not to focus on Griffin's antics.

"Do not relate me to her coverage. I had nothing to do with her being there," Jones Reynolds said. "I'm not going to take responsibility for anything she said or did. It's so not me, it's not my style."

Meanwhile, Joan Rivers called Jessica Walter of "Arrested Development" Barbara Walters. "There are a lot of people out there who take bets on how many flubs I'm going to make," the elder Rivers said Monday.

Joan's biggest disappointment? Mick Jagger.

"Come on, iron your suit and iron your face," she cracked Monday. "Jack Flash can't jump anymore. It makes me very sad. When he gets older, I'm getting older."

## THE FACE OF WAR HAS CHANGED.



Photo courtesy Soldier Magazine

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## YOUR MONEY

# Souvenir fever strikes nation's capital

## Americans open wallets for inauguration memorabilia

By DON OLDENBURG

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — With the 55th Presidential Inauguration fast approaching, the memorabilia mania has begun. But this souvenir thing, it's a little like the cicadas. Every four years, a gazillion inaugural keepsakes pop up in hotel gift stores, shops and street-side vendors. They get a lot of buzz. Then, a day after the inauguration, they're gone.

"Folks come in here and spend \$1,000 without saying much at all," says Tom Carrier, manager of Political Americana, a memorabilia shop three blocks from the White House. "Four years ago, it was the cuff links and inaugural medals."

Big sellers this year? Cuff links and inaugural medals, probably.

"The Presidential Inaugural Committee looks at what the previous one did, whether it was the other party or not, and does the same thing," says Bob "Button Bob" Levine, a St. Louis button maker for 40 years.

About 40 percent of Political Americana's inaugural inventory is official memorabilia — the only souvenirs allowed to use the Inauguration Seal — \$9 golf

ball packs, \$10 coffee mugs, \$28 teddy bears, \$28 sweat shirts, \$30 paperweights, some three dozen items so far. The store has priced official stuff, such as \$95 silver cuff links, \$225 silver medallion and \$190 gold medallion set.

Kay Gallota is shopping on her lunch break. She brushes past the \$3 buttons and \$8 T-shirts to examine the \$60 set of old-fashioned "on-the-rocks" glasses. She wants something classy.

"I'm looking for something like money clips for the men and pins for the women," says the SunTrust marketing veteran on a quest for inaugural-embossed gifts for colleagues helping her throw the bank's 1,000-guest Inauguration Day blowout.

Her guests will receive a surprise SunTrust-provided souvenir. Not official, but exclusive. Everything not sanctioned by the Inauguration Committee is unofficial.

Early this week, about 100 souvenir hawkers materialized on the sidewalks near the parade route, selling unofficial merchandise.

"It doesn't really start selling until a day or two before," says one longtime souvenir vendor on 15th Street who declined to be identified.

She's not exactly overrun with customers this week. But wait until Inauguration Day. She solemnly swears, "there'll be a big pile of people here."

The "big piles" add up to big business for inaugural merchandisers. "It is a multimillion-dollar venture," says New York political souvenir maker Mort Berkowitz.

"Buttons will outsell everything 10 to 1," says Berkowitz, whose company, Bold Concepts, designed more than 600 buttons for the presidential campaign. "There will be a minimum of a half-million inaugural buttons sold."

As with potato chips, people can't get just one. In 1992, Berkowitz was commissioned by the Inaugural Committee to design the official Clinton buttons. "Next thing I know, QVC was selling a set of five of these buttons," he says, "and, in the course of five shows, devoting five minutes each show to the buttons, they sold 26,300 sets."

Brian Harlin's Elkridge, Md., company, GOPShoppe.com, was

selected to be the Bush inauguration's "master vendor," in charge of drumming up and licensing official products. Harlin says official souvenirs alone did \$2.5 million in sales in Bush's first inauguration.

Traditionally, a second inauguration doesn't attract the same souvenir fervor, but Harlin figures this one will. Why? George W. Bush, he says.

Harlin's a loyal Bush supporter — which is how he got the job.

The George W. Bush Online Store reports that its big seller is a hand-numbered, limited-edition Makers Mark Bourbon Seasoned cigar — \$14 for three.

Toypresident Inc. spokesman Dwayne Crosby says his company has sold 30,000 of its \$30 "collector-quality," limited-edition talking Bush action figures, and PresidentPuppets.com sells a \$40 Muppet-like Bush that articulates 25 Bushisms and buly pulpit pronouncements. Cute. But party-poopers looking for really negative souvenirs can forget about them.

"There's no market for it," says Berkowitz, adding that Democrats aren't coming and protesters don't have money. "The inauguration is positive. This is a feel-good crowd."

At the warehouse of Americana Resources, a political memorabilia company in Gaithersburg, Md., co-owner Larry Krug questions how much shelf life inaugural souvenirs have. He drags out a large box of 200 to 300 Clinton inauguration buttons. He sells these buttons, whenever he can, for \$2.50 each — "less than they sold for" that day in 1993.

"I picked those up at an auction a year or so afterward, by them by the boxful for maybe \$20," says Krug, media director of American Political Items Collectors, an organization of 2,500 members nationwide. "They are produced in such quantities that they are never going to be collected as an investment."

He has about 100 pocket-size guides for Nixon's '73 inauguration, a stack of invitations sent to major campaign contributors for the second Clinton inauguration, and a batch of Ronald Reagan photos from his inaugural parties — all tough sells.

"Some things you have a lifetime supply of," he says, and adds: "You can go down there next week and fill your bags with the stuff."



Washington Post

Barry Landau of Manhattan, a self-educated White House historian and collector of things presidential — with a particular interest in inauguration memorabilia — shows off his inauguration memorabilia.

### EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Japanese yen (Jan. 15)	100.00
South Korean won (Jan. 14)	1,010.00
Euro cents	\$1.3294
Dollar buys	¢0.7466
British pound	\$1.50

Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.377
British pound	\$1.8706
Canada (Dollar)	1.1087
Denmark (Krone)	5.37
Egypt (Pound)	5.969
Euro	\$1.3106/7.7656

Hong Kong (Dollar)	1.799
Hungary (Forint)	188.06
Iceland (Krona)	60.95
Israel (Shekel)	4.359
Japan (Yen)	102.46
Kuwait (Dinar)	55.62
Norway (Krone)	5.52
Philippines (Peso)	55.62
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	1.6386

Singapore (Dollar)	1.0373
South Korea (Won)	103.73
Taiwan (New Dollar)	1.4945
Thailand (Baht)	38.49
Turkey (Lira)	1.4945

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are foreign currencies provided for reference in buying currency. All figures are interbank rates, one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars to pound, and the euro, which is dollars to euro.)

### PRECIOUS METALS

London close	
Gold	\$422.85
Silver	\$6.62

### INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	5.25
Discount rate	3.25
Federal funds market rate	3.25
3-month bill	2.34
30-year bond	4.69

Sources: The Associated Press, Bank of America



## Tax cuts for students

CBS MarketWatch

NEW YORK — If you're paying off student loans, check out the tax deductions available to you.

"A lot of people are not aware of the benefits," says Martha Holler, a spokeswoman for Sallie Mae, the education-funding provider.

"This is the time of year when getting a college education can actually pay you."

According to the IRS, you can deduct up to \$2,500 for interest paid in 2004 on a qualified federal or private student loan.

You can take this deduction in combination with any other deduction, such as the tuition-and-fee tax deduction or a lifetime learning credit.

But you cannot take the deduction if your adjusted gross income is more than \$65,000 — or \$130,000 if you are married and filing jointly.

The IRS also will not allow you to take the deduction if:

■ Another taxpayer claims an exemption for you as a dependent.

■ You are married but filing separately.

■ You are not legally obligated to make payments on the loan.

If you paid more than \$600 in student loan interest in 2004, your lenders should automatically send you a 1098E form, Holler says. Those forms go in the mail during January, so keep an eye out for yours.

If you don't receive a form, or you paid less than \$600 in interest, "contact your financial provider anyway," Holler advises.

"You'll get some good tax advice."

For more information on deducting your student loan interest, check out IRS publication 970, "Tax Benefits for Education," or visit [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).



## Home for tiger cubs

**NC** CHARLOTTE — Two young tiger cubs found wandering along a highway were given a home at the North Carolina Zoo recently as zoo officials worried that private ownership of exotic animals poses an increasing danger.

"This is just the latest example of a huge ongoing problem that the state Legislature needs to address," said zoo director David Jones. "These animals being kept in private hands pose a real threat to public safety and are detrimental to the welfare of the animals themselves."

The zoo pushed for several years for state laws to restrict private ownership of exotics, he said. Within the past 18 months, two North Carolina children have been mauled by tigers, including a young Wilkes County boy who was killed.

## Charged for lawyer jokes

**NY** HEMPSTEAD — Did you hear the one about the two jokes arrested for telling lawyer jokes? But seriously folks, it happened to the founders of a group called "Americans for Legal Reform," who were waiting in line to get into the First District Courthouse.

"How do you tell when a lawyer is lying?" Harvey Kash reportedly asked Carl Lanzisera.

"His lips are moving," they said in unison.

While some waiting to get into the courthouse giggled, an attorney further up the queue was not laughing. He told them to pipe down, and when they didn't, the attorney reported the pair to court personnel, who charged them with disorderly conduct, a misdemeanor.

"They just can't take it," Kash said of lawyers in general. "They're so used to control. We were outside on the street. This violates our First Amendment rights."

Dan Bagnuolo, a spokesman for the Nassau County courts, said the men were "being abusive and they were causing a disturbance."

## Site for museum

**KS** WICHITA — City officials have secured a riverfront site for a Kansas African-American museum, which could end up named for famed photographer Gordon Parks, a native of Fort Scott.

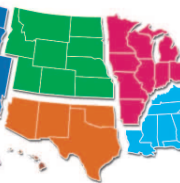
Parks, who now lives in New York, supports plans for the \$19.5 million museum and has donated 29 photographs, valued at \$1 million, to the project.

## Cargo stowaways nabbed

**CA** LOS ANGELES — The day after 32 Chinese nationals were found in shipping containers at the Port of Los Angeles, federal and local authorities said they were trying to unravel what appeared to be a human smuggling operation.

"Our intention at the moment is to develop a smuggling case," said Immigrant and Customs Enforcement spokeswoman Virginia Kice.

The 28 men and four male teenagers, apparently trying to sneak into the United States, were found inside two containers after a crane operator spotted several stowaways emerging from a hole in one



## AMERICAN ROUNDUP

of the containers. The containers were being loaded onto the vessel during a stop in Shekou, China, port officials said.

Investigators said the stench coming from the containers was "overwhelming." Inside they found discarded food packages, blankets, and containers overflowing with human waste. The stowaways traveled with food and water, and authorities said all were in good condition. They had also set up small battery-powered fans in the container.

## Suspect has record

**MN** MINNEAPOLIS — A man suspected in 23 bank robberies in the Twin Cities during the last year and a half was well-known to authorities as a public nuisance with a temper and a history of criminal activity, according to police records.

John Whitrock, 56, is suspected of being a notorious bank robber known as the Fishing Hat Bandit, after the floppy hats he sometimes wore. He was arrested Jan. 7 and charged with robbing a credit union in Edina.

Neighbors have described him as a nice man, but Whitrock has been convicted twice of driving while intoxicated, stopped twice for attempting to shoplift from a supermarket and cited for public displays in women's underwear and a blond wig, according to reports published by the Minneapolis Star-Tribune and the St. Paul Pioneer Press.

neer Press.

He also once threatened his girlfriend's ex-boyfriend with a gun as the man stood at a urinal, according to Eagan police records.

"He's a dirtbag," said Bruce Windlund, the man Whitrock pointed the gun at in 1992. "That nice guy act he puts on? You don't know how far from the truth that is."

Whitrock has been charged only with the one robbery, but police said he has admitted to 19 other heists. Born in Wisconsin Rapids, Wis., Whitrock completed a year of college and served two years in the Army. In the late 1980s, he was a button-down, tie-wearing financial analyst.

## Governor's popularity

**CT** HARTFORD — Gov. M. Jodi Rel's popularity is at 83 percent, the highest ever recorded for a state official in the Quinnipiac University poll.

Nearly half of those polled said Rel's decision to deliver her State of the State address nine days after heart surgery made them think more favorably of her.

## Hog keeps growing

**ND** HARLOW — Jean and Bernard Meyer have a celebrity on their Benson County farm. He doesn't have a name, but he's a heavyweight.

The Meyers' 7-foot, 8-inch hog weighs 1,300 pounds.

Bernard Meyer, who has raised hogs for more than 50 years, said the 2-year-old Yorkshire-Hampshire-Duroc cross weighed 300 pounds when purchased in Minnesota nearly two years ago.

"He usually gets corn in his rations," Meyer said. "He doesn't get a lot of feed. He just happened to be a fast grower. I tell my friends he just grew up."

"I thought that if I can get him to 1,500 pounds, I can take him to the State Fair," Meyer said. "We weighed him last summer and he was 1,200 pounds. By fall, he weighed 1,300 pounds."

## Seattle's nudity clause

**WA** SEATTLE — An art lover left his hometown about \$1 million to buy a new fountain, but with a stipulation.

The late Stu Smalles made clear the work must include the figure of at least one life-size naked man.

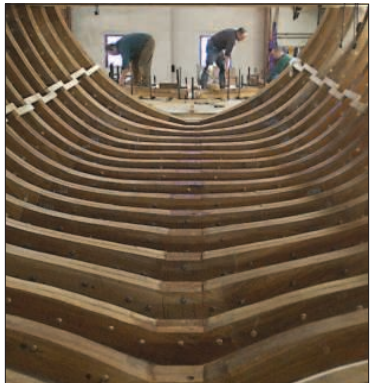
Smalles, a retired computer analyst, died in 2002 at the age of 69. He was an only child, with no immediate family. His attorney, Tim Bradbury, said Smalles was a great fan of the arts.

"He was a very funny man," Bradbury said, with a "very strong sense of humor."

According to court documents, the fountain bequest is to include "one or more unclothed, life-size male figure(s) designed in the classical style, i.e., realistic," said Karen Byström at the City's Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs.

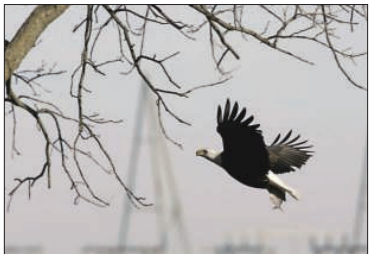
Byström said somebody in her office has suggested the naked-man fountain be part of the Seattle Art Museum's new Olympic Sculpture Park, now a work in progress at the north end of the downtown waterfront.

The agreement is still being negotiated.



## Time travel

Rockport (Maine) Marine employees work on the latest replica of the Godspeed, one of three ships that carried settlers nearly 400 years ago to land in Virginia, the site of the first permanent English settlement in the New World. The work is expected to be completed by March 2006, well in time for the following year's 400th anniversary of the settlement.



## Grabbing something to eat

A bald eagle carries a fish caught in the Mississippi River in Keokuk, Iowa, which was holding its annual Eagle Appreciation Days to celebrate the year's largest gathering of the birds.



## Blazing hot

Company in Oklahoma City.

A large cloud of fire rises above firefighters working a five-alarm fire at the B&M Oil



## Fierce protector

A dog keeps an eye out for any intruders in the back yard of a home in Las Cruces, N.M.





**Morning view**  
The small town of Hilo, Hawaii, wakes to blue skies, sunshine and snow high up on Mauna Kea mountain.



**Tattoo you**  
Efraim Rosario, right, applies a temporary tattoo on Laverne Hollins during Art Deco Weekend in the South Beach section of Miami Beach, Fla. Art Deco Weekend started with three vendors at the Cardozo Hotel more than a quarter-century ago.



**Runneth over**  
The Santa Felicia Dam overflows in Piru, Calif. Recent storms brought heavy rain and snow to several western states.



**Thinking of others**  
People gather in the shape of a heart to commemorate La Conchita, Calif., mudslide and Asian tsunami victims at Santa Barbara City College in Santa Barbara, Calif.

## Coin sells for about \$3M

**FL** FORT LAUDERDALE — The legendary Brasher Doubloon, the first gold coin made in the United States, sold for nearly \$3 million at a public auction.

President of Rare Coin Wholesalers Steven Contursi and Dr. Donald Kagan of California jointly purchased the gold piece.

The coin was hand-struck in 1787 by George Washington's New York City neighbor, gold and silversmith Ephraim Brasher. Only 10 examples survive.

## Referee attacker freed

**PA** PITTSBURGH — Hampton, Pa., parent Peter Dukovich will not serve jail time for his attack on a high-school basketball referee.

Common Pleas Judge John Zottola convicted Dukovich of simple assault but acquitted him of three other charges, including assault on a sports official.

Zottola said Dukovich, 48, had lived an exemplary life until his confrontation with Ron Bell during a Feb. 6 game. Nothing would be gained by punishing Dukovich to jail for an incident that was out of character with his history as a good parent and citizen, Zottola said.

## Fake ad fools some

**MN** MINNEAPOLIS — A fake radio announcement purporting to notify Minnesotans about a state "light-out" law has dozens of perplexed people calling the state Department of Natural Resources.

KDWB Radio listeners have been directed to visit a Web site to file for a light extension or rat out a neighbor.

The supposed DNR site ([www.lightoutminnesota.org](http://www.lightoutminnesota.org)) looks official enough with photos of the Capitol, loons and a lady's slipper as well as a message from the director and his smirking photo. Fines, he warns, will be assessed on a per-bulb basis.

"It's a bit of an April Fool's joke in January," explained Rob Morris, KDWB's program director. Radio folks call it a buzz bit — it gets someone's attention.

## Adult seat belt use up

**AL** MONTGOMERY — Seat belt use in Alabama last year was at a record high of 80 percent, but fewer people were buckling up children in car seats.

That rate dropped from 87 percent in 2003 to 83 percent in 2004. State health officials announced the results after a study observed use of the restraints in 15 selected counties.

## College gal can chow

**PA** CLEARFIELD — Kate Stelnick may weigh only 100 pounds, but her appetite is remarkable.

The college student from Princeton, N.J., is the first to meet a restaurant's challenge by downing its six-pound hamburger — and five pounds of fixins' — within three hours.

Stelnick, 19, didn't eat for two days to prepare for the challenge. "I felt very full, but I was too excited that I actually ate it to notice," Stelnick said. She made the five-hour drive to Denny's Beer Barrel Pub after seeing pictures of

the monster burger, dubbed the Ye Old 96er.

Nobody had finished the big burger in the three-hour time limit since it was introduced on Super Bowl Sunday 1998. In addition to the meat, contestants must eat one large onion, two whole tomatoes, one half head of lettuce, 1/4 pounds of cheese, two buns, and a cup each of mayonnaise, ketchup, mustard, relish, banana peppers and some pickles.

Stelnick did it all in two hours, 54 minutes.

Bar owner Denny Leiley Jr. said he was pretty sure somebody would meet his burger challenge, though he didn't have a pettie woman in mind.

## Suspect found in TV

**GA** BAINBRIDGE — A man allegedly on the run from Florida authorities since September was found curled up inside a TV.

After receiving a tip that Alfred Blane, 45, of Ponce de Leon, Fla., might be in Decatur County, police went to a mobile home near Bainbridge College, where a woman told police he was hiding under a mattress inside.

With the department's police dog, officers went inside. They searched the house thoroughly, even checking a freezer and washing machine, said Lt. Tim Watkins of the Thomas County Sheriff's Department.

Meanwhile, the dog kept poking around a TV, an older floor model, Watkins said. When officers unscrewed the back of the television, they found a balled-up Blane inside, Watkins said, adding that Blane is between 5-foot-10 and 6-foot tall.

Blane escaped in handcuffs from two sheriff's deputies in September as they tried to place him in the back of a police car, said Capt. Stan Sunday of the Walton County Sheriff's Office in Florida. He faces many charges, including burglary, possession of methamphetamine, battery on a law enforcement officer and escape.

## Body found off shore

**HI** HILO — A 54-year-old woman was found dead in a submerged car at the Pohokali Boat Ramp at Isaac Hale Beach Park in Puna on the Big Island.

Police said they identified the woman but were withholding her name until next of kin were notified. No foul play is believed to be involved in the woman's death, Detective Juergen Canda said.

Hawaii County Fire Department officials say a snorkeler found the car 50 feet from the shoreline in 10 feet of water. The doors were locked, the windows were rolled up and the car was filled with water, the officials said.

## Library legislation

**VA** RICHMOND — Two Virginia lawmakers are pushing bills that would require any public library that receives state funds to install filtering software on its computers.

The legislation is necessary to protect children from unwittingly stumbling across pornography while using the Internet for other local libraries, said the House bill's sponsor, Del. Samuel Nixon, Jr., R-Chesterfield.

Stories and photos from wire services

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## Ugly-duckling choice for Page 1

Sunday, Jan. 16, must have been a slow news day since the article "Soldier to 'Swan'" was on the cover. As the father of two young daughters, I cannot believe the newspaper would hold up Capt. Delia Stiles in a favorable way. This Fox makeover show not only denigrates women, it glorifies some of the least favorable characteristics of our society.

Capt. Stiles, a psychologist, could only find fulfillment in her life through plastic surgery and professional cosmetics? She took the time to go on this show, admitting her marriage was not doing well, taking her away from her husband for four months after already being away for a year. Stiles treats the fact that she overcame the emotional struggle of being served divorce papers as a badge of honor. She has a right to choose the show over her marriage, but let's not applaud her for it.

This cover story, which also took up all of Page 3, sends the message to all women that, through putting yourself first, plastic surgery and lots of cosmetics, you will be happy.

I am blessed to know many wonderful women who would not be picked to model for Victoria's Secret. They understand that having makeup in life has very little to do with how you look. It has everything to do with the choices you make and what you stand for.

So the next time Stripes wants to praise a woman in our military, I should please pick one of the many competent professionals who care about their families. They may or may not be beautiful by society's standards, but are very beautiful to those around them.

Maj. Jim Lawson

Yongsan Garrison, South Korea

## Leaders can't just follow blindly

Concerning Clinton Jester's Jan. 14 article about Senior NCO leadership ("Senior NCO's attitude is lousy"), I would reply that we need a lot more leaders like Master Sgt. Kenn Lett ("Disserve announcements," letter, Jan. 9). We need a leader to speak up. It doesn't take a leader to roll over every time some controversial new directive comes out. It takes a real leader to speak up when issues need further investigation and critical analysis. The curfew issue definitely needs to be looked at more closely.

As stated by previous writers on this page recently, if the midnight curfew in South Korea is so necessary for readiness, why wasn't it done a long time ago? Were all previous leaders negligent? Why isn't a midnight curfew done everywhere in the military? Why is it only done in South Korea? Or is readiness just being used as a convenient excuse here to keep people under lock and key?

If the North Koreans came charging across the border, it won't only be the folks in South Korea who will fight. The people in Japan and in America will be required

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to "fight tonight" also. I too, have lived in South Korea for a long time and it is time for those of us who have been here a while to be heard on this issue.

Thank you, Master Sgt. Lett, for having the integrity and courage to say what had to be said. It's easy for me to speak in the print media since I've retired from active duty. It's much harder for military people, especially senior people, to step up to the plate. It's nice to know there are still people in positions of authority who will act on their best instincts rather than worry about what the synopsists say.

By the way, what is your curfew on Okinawa, Mr. Jester?

Air Force Master Sgt. Todd Burger (Ret.)  
Taegu, South Korea

## 'Fight tonight' not guaranteed

I am usually not one to chime in during discussions of local politics in the office, or outside for that matter. Because of this, I was surprised when a colleague brought a letter published in Stars and Stripes to my attention. The letter, "Keeping curfew in context" (Jan. 10), was finely written by Command Sgt. Maj. Greg B. Bunc, for which I applaud Command Sgt. Maj. Bunc. However, he seemed to not only miss a few points in Scott Smith's Dec. 24 letter ("Lift the curfew in South Korea"), but came to a few assumptions of his own.

After reading the dialogue, I was left with the inkling that Command Sgt. Maj. Bunc believes that all members of U.S. Forces Korea on the peninsula are not only in the military, but forward-deployed ground troops. I would like to take the time to correct this misimpression. I was honorably discharged from military service in the U.S. Air Force on Feb. 9. Several of the contractors who work with me in my office have never served time in military. Some have never seen a firearm outside of a movie.

They, and I, are here "voluntarily" to support the fighting men and women serving on this peninsula. Many of us have uprooted our lives and families in order to provide a service to the troops here, to ensure that the command's missions can be carried out.

Imposing a curfew on the civilians of USFK does nothing to ensure that our jobs are being done. I believe our direct line supervisors and companies are the judges of that. And, if found to be neglecting our duties, I am quite sure we would be terminated, much like those men and women serving in uniform. Whether I, as a civilian, stumble through my doorway at 0300 or 1200 seems inconsequential to this fact. If I do not fulfill my duties, I will be fired. No questions asked.

So I ask: What does imposing this curfew on the civilians who give their services to USFK accomplish? It has already been pointed out that no travel warnings have been issued to the Republic of Korea. No significant change to the force-protection level has occurred. I am simply at a loss.

Imposing a curfew on the servicemen and women of USFK may ensure that they are "fit to fight tonight," but for some reason I highly doubt that. The question has been asked: What is the difference between a crew chief or infantryman who is off-post drunk at 0100 and a crew chief or infantryman who is on-post drunk at 0130? In this, I can only respond: that neither will be "fit to fight tonight." It isn't as if the command is forbidding the consumption of alcohol to ensure that our troops aren't caught "hung over, and not at their posts."

In closing, Command Sgt. Maj. Bunc: I doubt that "brilliant officer who" crossed the icy Delaware River with battle-weary soldiers to defeat the Hessians at Trenton" found himself pitted against drunken civilians.

Matthew Eitel

Taegu, South Korea

## Don't complain in Qatar

People serving their combat tours in striking resorts such as Qatar should not worry about how the Army sees fit to keep soldiers serving in the military.

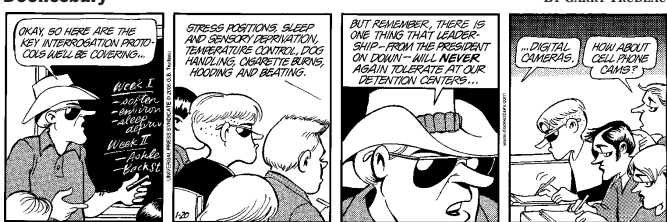
I have served both on active duty and in the National Guard. I happen to know that the bonuses on active duty are quite a bit higher than what the Guard and reserves offer. We are also required to maintain the same level of readiness in the Guard and reserves as the active duty for less pay, not to mention that the Guard and reserve make up 40 percent to nearly half of the Army.

Up until the Guard came into this particular incentive, I was seriously considering not re-enlisting after my deployment, which was spent totally in Iraq (not a vacation spot). I have been martyred, rocketed, shot at, and had improvised explosive devices hit the convoy I was in during patrol, not handing out screen.

Staff Sgt. Edward W. McGhee  
Baghdad

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

## Doonesbury



## OPINION

## Harry wears the painful past on his sleeve

BY ANDRES GUMBEL

It has been a while since the word "Nazi" was associated with a member of the British royal family. But obviously it has not been long enough. Last Thursday, London's best-selling newspaper, the Sun, splashed a photograph of 20-year-old Prince Harry at a costume party wearing the uniform of Nazi Field Marshal Erwin Rommel's Afrika Korps, complete with swastika armband, and the whole of Britain went berserk.

"Complete idiot" was the epithet bandied about by one anti-fascist group, and nobody seemed to think it remotely inappropriate. The president of Britain's Holocaust Trust went even further, calling the prince's actions "stupid and evil." The Sun's headline was "Harry the Nazi."

A former armed forces minister suggested that Harry, who is third in line to the throne, was now unfit to enter Sandhurst, Britain's elite officer training school, where he is due to start later this year. And the former commander of British forces in Bosnia, Col. Bob Stewart, said that if one of his men had gone to a party dressed as a Nazi he would have put him to toilet-cleaning duty for two weeks.

It's hardly news that a British royal has made a prize wit of himself. That seems to be the House of Windsor's lot. But this is in a whole different category. Even a 20-year-old (and particularly one in line to the throne) should know that the world is still colossally and understandably sensitive about the Nazis and their monstrous crimes.

After all, the Third Reich came close to ripping apart the fabric of the British monarchy in the 1930s and posed a unique threat to a divided establishment. Had history

jogged just a few degrees one way or the other, Britain could have found itself either allied with Adolf Hitler or overrun by his *Wehrmacht* and turned into a fascist state.

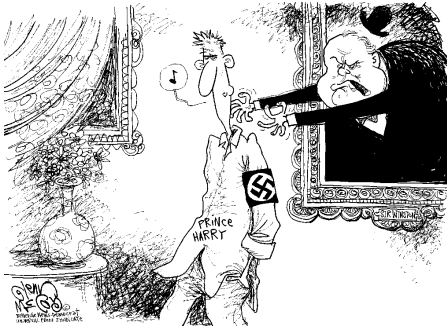
Nobody represented the flirtation with totalitarianism more than Harry's great-grand-uncle, Edward VIII, the ultimate black sheep of the family, who openly sympathized with the Nazis and might have pushed Britain into an anti-Stalinist alliance with Hitler had it not been for his insistence on marrying the American divorcee — and equally ardent Nazi apologist — Wallis Simpson, an insistence that precipitated his abdication in 1936.

For a long time, conventional wisdom had it that the objection to Simpson was religious and moral: that there was no tolerance of divorce in Anglican belief, which Edward, as monarch, was bound to uphold.

Recently released official papers have shown, however, that the establishment was greatly exercised by Simpson's fondness for the Nazis (she was believed to have been Joachim von Ribbentrop's lover when he was ambassador to London), even more vexed about Edward's openly pro-Nazi leanings and anxious to see him stripped of the crown if at all possible. The divorce must have seemed providential.

The reverberations from the abdication crisis are still palpable among today's royals. The late Prince Philip's sisters married Nazi sympathizers, and the Windsors who succeeded Edward VIII — his brother, George VI, and George's daughter, Elizabeth II — had to live it out, even after the Third Reich's demise.

Edward himself continued to be a severe embarrassment, dining in Germany with Hitler and Rudolph Hess in 1937 and very



possibly (the record is ambiguous) plotting with the Nazis to return to the throne in the event of a successful invasion of Britain.

This is the history that Harry just brought roaring back to life.

The costume party, held at the mansion of the Olympic show jumper Richard Meade, was on a "native and colonial" theme, so, to add insult to injury, Harry's costume revived unpleasant parallels between the Nazi taste for bloodthirsty imperial adventure and Britain's own leanings in that direction — like using poison gas on the Kurds, shooting independence protesters in India and so

on. Britain has long since repented of its imperial sins, but nostalgia still abounds in certain upper-class circles.

Harry has been a mild cause for concern before — accused by his art teacher at Eton of cheating on his A-level exams, caught in a bust-up with a photographer outside a London club. With a reputation as a tearaway, he has spent part of his year before Sandhurst working as a ranch hand in Australia. His father and grandmother must be regretting he didn't stay longer.

Andres Gumbel is the Los Angeles correspondent for the Independent of London. This column first appeared in the Los Angeles Times.

## Four more years — closer to what 2020 will bring

WASHINGTON

Four years ago when the newly inaugurated President Bush called on his fellow Americans to "show courage in a time of blessing," he could not imagine the horrors of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks or the demands of war in Afghanistan and Iraq.

David Broder

On this day of his second inaugural, the only certainty is that the next four years will present challenges as large and unexpected as those of the past.

Supporters and critics can agree that the nation is fortunate that its leader is a man prepared to cope with radically changed circumstances, a person of fixed principles but not one wedded to policies of the past.

In his first term, when many supposed that the clouded circumstances of his election would force Bush into a cautious, minimalist approach to governing, he boldly set out to recast many fundamental institutions and doctrines. At home, he engineered sweeping changes in the scale and distribution of the federal government to local schools, and sponsored the largest expansion ever of Medicare. Policies for the environment, regulation of business, law enforcement and a dozen other fields were turned around.

Ahead, the changes were even more dramatic as Bush cast aside the doctrine of containment for one of pre-emptive action — applied unilaterally and controversially to Iraq. He encouraged an overhaul of the armed forces and he launched a style of di-

plomacy that rattled the teeth of many traditional allies.

Now, armed with a second and larger victory at the polls, his domestic agenda includes changing the Social Security system, reforming energy and immigration policies, reducing the number and scale of civil dam suits, simplifying the tax system and further changing public education.

Ambitious as this seems, the likelihood is that the world stage will demand more from Bush — and provide the sternest tests of his adaptability. Iraq is a bleeding wound on his presidency, a war that growing majorities of Americans have joined the rest of the world in judging a mistake. The future of Iraq is less and less in America's hands.

A sketch of what else lies ahead can be found in "Mapping the Global Future," a 120-page forecast of world affairs in the next

15 years, published last week by the National Intelligence Council, the CIA think tank.

"The international order," it says, "is in the midst of profound change at no time since the formation of the Western alliance system in 1949 have the shape and nature of international alignments been in such a state of flux as they have during the past decade. As a result, the world of 2020 will differ markedly from the world of 2004, and in the intervening years the United States will face major international challenges that differ significantly from those we face today. The very magnitude and speed of change resulting from a globalizing world — regardless of its precise character — will be a defining feature of the world out to 2020."

One of the likely developments is the emergence of China, India and perhaps Indonesia as major economic and political pow-

ers, while Japan, Western Europe and Russia cope with the challenges of rapidly aging populations. The rise of Asian powers likely will be abetted by globalization — the rapid spread of technology — and pose a challenge to America's economy.

The hopeful trend of democratization will likely confront opposition in ethnic and identity politics, especially the transnational force of Islamic extremism, and contribute to a "pervasive sense of insecurity."

"The United States increasingly will have to battle world public opinion, which has dramatically shifted since the end of the Cold War," the report says. At another point, it adds, "In the future, growing distrust could prompt governments to take a more hostile approach."

Bush has his work cut out for him.

David Broder is a member of Washington Post Writers Group.

## Mallard Fillmore

BY BRUCE TINSLEY





# Horoscope

The sun has entered Aquarius, and the moon transits through fellow air sign Gemini. Mental agility is featured, which shows up most notably in a social context. Wit is an honored characteristic, and new relationships are sparked because somebody made somebody else laugh. Intelligent humor improves areas of romance and finance, too.

## TODAY'S BIRTHDAY

**(January 20)** The rhythm and pace of your daily life seems to flow much smoother this year, which brings a welcome relief to your busy days. Creatively, you are blossoming, and that attracts new love, too. You'll win a prize in March. Focus on home repairs in July — it looks like you'll be throwing a lot of parties beginning around Labor Day.

## ARIES (March 21-April 19)

Someone dear is concerned with building each "now" moment to the hilt but is gun shy when it comes to making plans. Be willing to forget about the future. It just feels right with a Leo, Libra or Capricorn.

## TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

If there has been confusion about whether or not an attraction is mutual, the answer is now unmistakable. Friends and siblings try to compete with you. Break your own records, and don't worry about anyone else's.

## GEMINI (May 21-June 21)

You need freedom to pursue your ideas. Look beyond the immediate limitations for answers. Keep careful track of possessions. People who borrow from you have difficulty making returns.

## CANCER (June 22-July 22)

The morning is rocky, but after lunch, the good news is, there is no more bad news. You're practically chanting for what you want in the afternoon (except you Buddhists out there, who are actually chanting for what you want).

## LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

game at work is for the most experienced and mature players, so only jump in if you feel you can really compete. Otherwise, you'll feel like you're a kid playing dress up, hiding behind a fake mustache.

## VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

You notice positive changes as the day progresses. A new piece of office equipment makes life easier, or there may be a personal shift. Perhaps there is even the possibility for romance.

## LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)

Try to take in as much information as you can. It's too easy to single out the parts that fit your beliefs and block your ears to the rest. Listening selectively inhibits growth. Be open.

## SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)

Every action you do has potential for enjoyment and pleasure. Right now, you may be the only one smiling as you sort through a big pile of papers or sweep the floor. Others catch on eventually.

## SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Sacrifice is a necessary part of the job, and you're willing. By not expecting a reward, you'll receive more than you would have imagined for yourself. Tonight brings delicious courtesy.

## CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

It's easy to put your heart into sensational, glamorous or dramatic efforts. But the real prize comes when you put your heart into the mundane tasks, like doing laundry, bookkeeping and grocery shopping.

## AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Rebellious vibes have you saying "no" just because someone else is saying "yes." Because of your refusal to fall in line, you'll end up doing things the hard way — but you'll be happier.

## PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

Today's activities are similar to yesterday's, but you're framing them differently. Shift your attitude. If you're taking action because you're obligated to do so, there's no way you're going to do your best.

Creators Syndicate

## Holiday Mathis



Calvin and Hobbes



Jump Start



Zits



Cathy



Hi and Lois



Beetle Bailey



Red and Rover



Better or Worse



## Peanuts





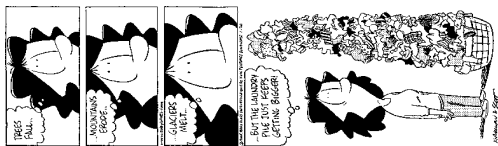
Fox trot



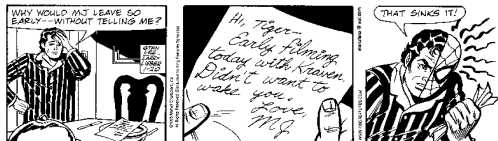
B.C.



Baby Bites



Spider Man



Blondie



Dilbert



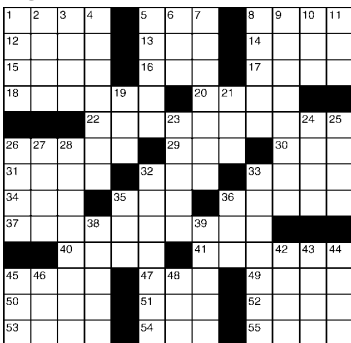
Hagar



Garfield



## Eugene Sheffer Crossword



## Across

- 1 Recruits' repast
- 5 Drill insert
- 8 Competent
- 12 Touch
- 13 Camel droppings?
- 14 Cat call
- 15 Moving man?
- 16 Miller Sebastian
- 17 Differently
- 18 Deep blue
- 20 Pealed
- 22 Pretentious official
- 26 They ain't worth a nickel
- 29 DHL rival
- 30 Santa —, Calif.
- 31 Piccadilly statue
- 32 Actress Irving
- 33 Mine entrance
- 34 Flightless bird
- 35 Clothing protector
- 36 Helps hoods
- 37 Old-style trousers
- 40 Semester
- 41 Proof of membership, maybe
- 45 Big con
- 47 Blueprint addition
- 49 Margarine
- 50 Met melody
- 51 Born
- 52 'Tulvide refrain
- 53 Change for a C-note
- 54 Pitch
- 55 Farmer's home?

## Down

- 1 Amahl's night visitors
- 2 Black, in verse
- 3 Sought restitution
- 4 Bill Murray movie
- 5 Strips in the kitchen?
- 6 Seeking, in the personals (Abbr.)
- 7 Counseling
- 8 Make corrections
- 9 Capital of Serbia
- 10 — Lonely Boys
- 11 Lamb's dam
- 19 Petrol
- 21 Respond (Abbr.)
- 23 Type of shrimp
- 24 Troop group
- 25 Wilander of tennis
- 26 Profound
- 27 "My Friend —"
- 28 Between Pacific and Central
- 32 Physical woe
- 33 Run off
- 35 Tavern
- 36 Moreover
- 38 Rangers' place
- 39 Prudhoe Bay vessel
- 42 Lotion additive
- 43 Stagger
- 44 Gussy (up)
- 45 Part of an Uncle Sam costume
- 46 Raw rock
- 48 Meadow

## Answer to Previous Puzzle



## 1-20

## CRYPTOQUIP

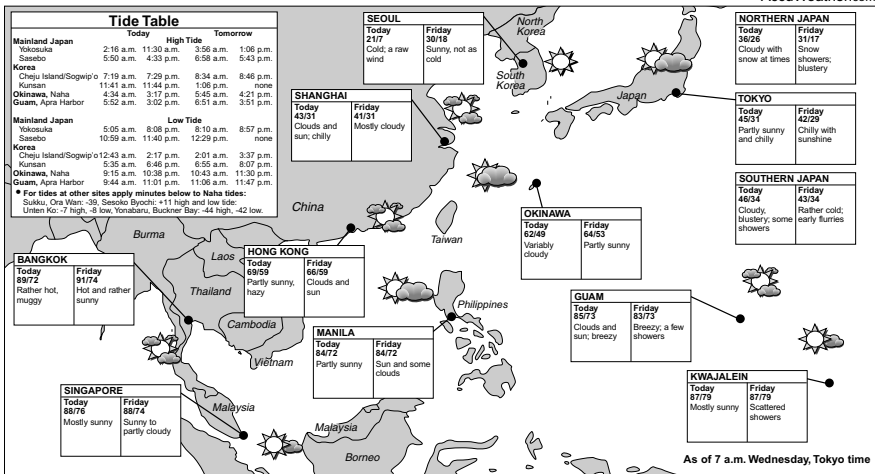
UV U JHAWPXLFLQ X WNE  
XS KXAIFS, U LHJJNLF  
U ENHDQ KUDI US VNA

XDD US'L ENASP.  
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I WOULD GET  
AWFULLY SICK OF PUTTING RETREADS ON  
CARS. IT'S A PRETTY TIRING TASK.  
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: D equals L



# The Pacific Forecast

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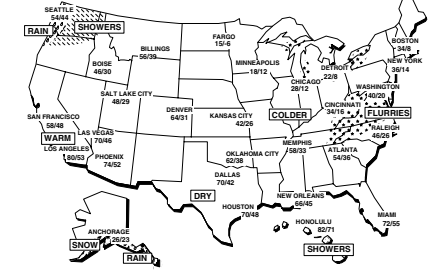
## Extended Forecasts

<b>TOKYO</b> Saturday: Partly sunny, high 42, low 31. Sunday: Snow, high 45, low 37.	<b>KADENA</b> Saturday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 67, low 59. Sunday: Mostly sunny, high 70, low 57.	<b>SEoul</b> Saturday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 33, low 20. Sunday: Partly sunny, high 39, low 23.	<b>MANILA</b> Saturday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 84, low 72. Sunday: Partly sunny, high 86, low 72.	<b>HAGATNA</b> Saturday: Showers, high 85, low 75. Sunday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 85, low 75.
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## Tuesday's USA Temperatures

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Albuquerque	59/34	Los Angeles	84/54
Amarillo	60/32	Little Rock	39/28
Anchorage	14/-1	Louisville	26/20
Ashville	33/14	Miami	70/54
Baltimore	25/8	Milwaukee	26/20
Birmingham	43/26	Nashville	32/25
Bismarck	50/20	New York	20/10
Boise	47/34	Omaha	39/23
Boston	15/4	Orlando	61/42
Brownsville	73/58	Philadelphia	22/10
Buffalo	9/4	Phoenix	80/55
Burlington	0/-12	Pittsburgh	19/10
Charleston, SC	40/18	Portland, OR	60/50
Charlotte	33/14	Portland, ME	12/-6
Cleveland	17/11	Salt Lake City	48/30
Columbus, OH	19/14	St. Louis	34/28
Duluth	20/8	San Antonio	54/44
El Paso	60/34	San Diego	81/54
Hartford	11/-2	San Juan	84/72
Helena	49/38	Tampa	61/42
Indianapolis	22/18	Tulsa	42/38
Jacksonville	51/28	Washington	26/14
Kansas City	41/31	Wichita	42/32

## Thursday, January 20



## U.S. Extended Forecast

Pacific moisture will continue to stream into the Northwest Thursday, leading to rain and mountain snow in Washington and Oregon. High pressure over the Rockies will provide dry and mild weather for much of the region, as well as the Desert Southwest and California. Meanwhile, a weak area of low pressure will dive through the Ohio Valley, leading to snow light snow and flurries. Very cold air will reside over the Northeast. Colder air will also be found over the Great Lakes and Upper Midwest. The Southeast will have seasonable temperatures. On Friday and Saturday, another quick-moving storm will slice through the Midwest, Great Lakes and Ohio Valley. Light to moderate snow will accompany the system.

## Thursday's Pacific Temperatures

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Bangkok	89/72	Iskani	41/29	Sasebo NB	48/35	Acapulco	89/69
Beijing	38/18	Kadena AB	62/49	Sapporo	36/26	Athens	52/40
Camp Casey	66/36	Kunsan AB	29/19	Seoul	21/7	Buenos Aires	73/61
Christchurch	23/6	Kwajalein	87/79	Shanghai	43/31	Cairo	65/47
Diego Garcia	86/77	Manila	84/72	Singapore	88/76	Cancun	73/60
Hagatna	85/73	Masawa AB	39/24	Sydney	84/64	Barbados	86/70
Hanoi	69/58	Osan	25/7	Teagu	33/17	Geneva	59/47
Hong Kong	69/59	Perth	87/66	Taipei	63/49	Berlin	39/30
Honolulu	82/71	Pusan	36/21	Tokyo	45/31	Bermuda	58/53

## Thursday's World Temperatures

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Budget	35/29	Katol	41/17	Nairobi	86/57	Madrid	57/42
Buenos Aires	73/61	Kiev	28/19	New Delhi	70/41	Paris	51/42
Cairo	65/47	Kuwait	66/45	Oslo	31/21	Rio de Janeiro	84/61
Cancun	73/60	London	51/42	Stockholm	50/42	Rome	50/42
Cape Town	84/61	Madrid	57/42	St. Petersburg	25/18	Warsaw	32/23
Geneva	59/47	Mexico City	68/39	Stockholm	50/42		
Guatemala	41/38	Montreal	13/-13				
Honolulu	82/71	Mogadishu	93/75				
Johannesburg	72/51	Moscow	27/16				



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## Applications being accepted for Guam's March Madness

Stars and Stripes

**ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, Guam** — Entries now are being accepted for the March Madness Basketball Tournament, scheduled for March 14-19 at Andersen's new \$17 million fitness center.

The combined round-robin and double-elimination event of the final Pacific basketball tournament open to post- or base-level teams in the 2004-05 season, is open to the first 12 men's and 10 women's teams to sign up.

It's the first time since March 2002 that the tournament will accept entries from base, post or open teams. The tournament was not held in 2003 due to operational commitments; in 2004, it was held but limited to on-island teams.

Entry fee is \$400; the entry deadline is March 1. Phone DSN 366-2516 or 6100 or e-mail Gerard Barnes at [gerrard.barnes@andersen.af.mil](mailto:gerrard.barnes@andersen.af.mil) for information.



DAVE ORNAUER/Stars and Stripes

**Senior Amy Bakemeyer (13) and the Lady Falcons impressed their coach in a military post-level tournament last month.**

## Cooking: Lady Falcons feel chemistry is right

COOKING, FROM PAGE 34

"We have a good connection as a team," Daniels said. "We're the best of friends off the court and it shows on the court. ... Chemistry is important. If you have a problem off the court, it may occur on the court. Nothing should interfere on the court."

As for motivation, the Falcons have enough, Bakemeyer says, to stock all of KALAC.

"I'm proud of the boys' accomplishments," she said, but "we're a strong team, too. We want to be equals. We want to be noticed."

In the Falcons' past three Class AA semifinal appearances, "right when we don't need them, we'll get a bad call, a critical turnover, a wide-open shot that doesn't fall," Bakemeyer said. "It's a motivation for me."

Hicks admitted once doubting that the Falcons even could equal past years' records — but their ap-

pearance in a military post-level tournament at Osan Air Base last month changed her mind. The Falcons won three close games and beat Suwon Air Base by 14 points in that tournament.

"I got a different opinion of what they could do, if they work hard enough," Hicks said.

The Osan appearance also went far toward helping the Falcons overcome a major hurdle Hicks says has affected them in Far East: being a dominating shark in Korea but just another goldfish in the Class AA bowl.

"We've been fighting the battle of being 'Queen of KALAC,' everything working here, then when we go to the tournament, we're the underdog," Hicks said. "The kids get the big heads, they can't be beat, then go over there expecting teams to roll over just because they've been unbeaten."

Another major help this year might be playing Class AA in

front of home fans, an advantage Hicks has never enjoyed. Always before, she's also had to play teacher, parent and chaperone, ensuring players meet curfews and crack the books as well as the hoops.

But Hicks refuses to crown the Falcons early.

"No one has verbalized it," she said, but the kids are thinking about it. ... But we don't want to get to that point right now. We want to take care of business.

"There are many teams out there that are excellent. Without getting the breaks as you go through the tournament, it may never happen. A couple of times in the past, had we played another team in the semifinals, we'd have been at center court. The timing wasn't right. This year, it could be there. But I'm not foolish enough to predict that it's going to."

E-mail Dave Ornauer at: [ornauer@stripes.osd.mil](mailto:ornauer@stripes.osd.mil)

## Tucker gives lift to Texas in victory over Oklahoma St.

The Associated Press

**AUSTIN, Texas** — After coming up with a big win, the Texas Longhorns (14-3, 3-1 Big 12) wondered if their top scorer would be with them the rest of the season.

P.J. Tucker, who spent most of the first half on the bench in foul

trouble, scored 15 points after the break and freshman point guard Daniel Gibson had 27 points and 10 rebounds in No. 15 Texas' 75-61 victory over No. 5 Oklahoma State on Monday night.

Tucker, a sophomore forward, is facing academic issues that could make him ineligible for the spring semester, which was to start Tuesday. That means the important Big 12 win could be his last game.

Tucker and Texas coach Rick Barnes wouldn't comment on his status after the game.

Oklahoma State (13-2, 3-1) was plagued by foul trouble. Starters Joey Graham and Terrence Crawford both fouled out with more than eight minutes to play.

**No. 16 Connecticut 77, Seton Hall 68:** At East Rutherford, N.J., Josh Boone scored 20 points and Connecticut's freestout dominated on an off-night by the guards.

Freshman Rudy Gay added 18 points and Charlie Villanueva had 16 for Connecticut (11-3, 3-1 Big East) which won for the 11th time in 12 games against Seton Hall (8-7, 0-4) despite going 0-for-6 from three-point range.

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# Long, cold winter for St. Bonaventure

## Bonnies still staggering after being rocked by eligibility scandal in 2003

BY JOHN WAWROW

The Associated Press

OLEAN, N.Y. — The lunch crowd was gathering at Angeles, with little buzz in the restaurant about the St. Bonaventure basketball game that night.

The Bonnies were home against George Washington, then ranked No. 21 and the best team to come to town this season. Yet the closest thing to a smile inside this hangout was the one belonging to Bob Lanier. The St. Bonaventure great is wearing his No. 31 uniform and dribbling a ball in a yellowing black-and-white poster next to the bar.

"I don't think I'm going," said Fritz Gram, a land clerk and long-

time season-ticket holder. "It's too painful."

"It's going to be a long year," added barber Ray Padio.

Reminded that the season's already half over, Padio corrected himself, saying: "It's been a long year already."

OLEAN, a basketball-mad town on the edge of the Pennsylvania border, is now home to a school struggling to win any games at all and trying to recover from a player eligibility scandal that shook this community of 15,000.

At 1-13 following the loss to George Washington, the Bonnies are off to the worst start in school history and have lost 25 of 27.

The team has an RPI of 320 out of 330 Division I programs.

This is a long way from the days when the school earned four postseason berths from 1998-02. The highlight of that stretch came in 2000 when the Bonnies lost in double overtime to Kentucky in the first round of the NCAA tournament. And it's even further from the golden era of Lanier, who led the Bonnies to a Final Four berth in 1970.

The current troubles stem from the scandal of March 2003. The school broke NCAA junior college transfer guidelines by allowing forward Jamil Terrell to play despite earning only a welding certificate at a Georgia community college.

The Bonnies were barred from the Atlantic 10 playoffs that season, a decision that spurred the

players to boycott their final two regular-season games and led to NCAA sanctions a year later.

The mood is more upbeat on the St. Bonaventure campus overlooking the snow-covered Allegheny Mountains.

Standing in the foyer of the basketball office, coach Anthony Solomon claps his hands loudly, greeting a visitor by exclaiming: "I love this attention. If they want to talk about our record. Let them talk."

Inside the office, Solomon acknowledges what's apparent in the standings.

"We're going through the most difficult time right now because of the growing pains that we're experiencing, especially on the scoreboard," he said. "Certainly,



**Tyler Ralph**, who is sitting out this season after transferring from West Virginia, watches St. Bonaventure lose to George Washington in Olean, N.Y., on Jan. 12 and fall to 1-13 on the year. A former New York State Mr. Basketball, Ralph is excited about the Bonnies' future.

human nature wants you to win on the scoreboard."

The Bonnies are being outscored by an average of 16 points a night and there's been only one game in which they had more assists than turnovers.

Solomon remains patient, seeing gradual improvement in a young team.

"I'm patient. We're going to persevere through it. And with time, we're going to get to where we'd all like to see it go," he said.

Solomon has not had it easy since coming aboard in May 2003 as a replacement for Jan van Breda Kolff, who was dismissed after the school ruled he played a role in urging Terrell's transfer. Van Breda Kolff insists he knew nothing about Terrell's status and is suing St. Bonaventure for wrongful termination and libel.

The scandal took a darker turn in August 2003 when William Swan, chairman of the school's trustees, committed suicide, in part because he thought he let down his alma mater.

Solomon, a former Notre Dame assistant, inherited a team that featured only six players following the defections of two returning players and two promising recruits.

The Bonnies went 7-21 last year, the modest success mostly the result of point guard Marques Green, who has since graduated. This year's roster is much more raw, the most experienced player being guard Ahmad Smith. But there is promise in sophomore guard Tyler Ralph, a former New York State Mr. Basketball, who's sitting out this season after transferring from West Virginia last spring.

"You could look at it and cringe," Ralph said, referring to the Bonnies' record. "I've got next year, and I'm just looking forward to it. ... I see 1-12, it just makes me want to come shoot more and work harder. I look forward to the future."

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# SCOREBOARD

## AFN TV & Radio

### Thursday

**AFN-Atlantic, 10 a.m.**-College basketball: North Carolina Charlotte at Cincinnati.  
**AFN-Atlantic, 12:30 p.m.**-College basketball: Duke at Miami, Fla.  
**AFN-Atlantic, 12:30 p.m.**-NBA: Minnesota at L.A. Lakers.  
**AFN-Atlantic, 5 p.m.**-College basketball: North Carolina Charlotte at Cincinnati (dtd).

### Friday

**AFN-Sports, 2 a.m.**-NBA: Cleveland at Portland.  
**AFN-Sports, 5 a.m.**-Golf: PGA Buckle Invitational.  
**AFN-Atlantic, 9 a.m.**-College basketball: Arizona at Oregon (dtd).  
**AFN-Atlantic, 10 a.m.**-NBA: Houston at Orlando.  
**AFN-Atlantic, 12:30 p.m.**-NBA: Cleveland at Sacramento.  
**AFN-Sports, 9 p.m.**-College basketball: Minnesota at Oregon (dtd).  
**AFN-Sports, 9 p.m.**-College basketball: Arizona at Oregon (dtd).

All times Japan and Korea Standard Time. det indicates delayed broadcast. All listings are subject to change. Visit [www.nyaa.net](http://www.nyaa.net) for more information.

## College basketball

### AP Men's Top 25

The top 25 teams in The Associated Press men's college basketball poll. Teams with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Jan. 16. Total points scored and points per game for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote and last five points ranking.

	Record	Pts
1. Illinois (58)	18-0	1,799
2. Kansas (13)	19-1	1,759
3. Wake Forest	19-1	1,532
4. Oklahoma State	13-1	1,442
5. Kentucky	17-1	1,407
6. Syracuse	17-1	1,407
7. North Carolina	14-2	1,354
8. Wisconsin	18-1	1,354
9. Gonzaga	13-1	876
10. Georgetown Tech	13-1	876
11. Arizona	14-2	876
12. North Carolina	14-2	876
13. Texas	10-1	724
14. Connecticut	12-2	699
15. Duke	12-2	699
16. Michigan State	12-2	699
17. Cincinnati	14-2	442
18. Virginia	12-2	442
19. Alabama	13-1	383
20. Wisconsin	12-2	299

**Others receiving votes:** George Washington, 14; UCLA, 49; Texas Tech, 49; Virginia Tech, 26; Florida, 27; Maryland, 27; North Carolina, 27; Illinois, 22; Oregon, 22; N.C. State, 6; Vermont, 6; Michigan State, 5; Old Dominion, 5; Wake Forest, 4; Nevada, 2; Bucknell, 1; St. Mary's, 1; California, 1.

### USA Today/ESPN Top 25 poll

The top 25 teams in the USA Today-ESPN men's college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Jan. 16, points based on 25 points for a first-place vote, through one point for a 25th-place vote and previous ranking.

	Record	Pts
1. Illinois (27)	18-0	721
2. Wake Forest	19-1	710
3. Kansas	13-1	612
4. Oklahoma State	13-1	612
5. Kentucky	17-1	612
6. Syracuse	17-1	612
7. North Carolina	14-2	562
8. Wisconsin	18-1	482
9. Gonzaga	13-1	362
10. Georgetown Tech	13-1	362
11. Arizona	14-2	362
12. Louisiana	13-1	362
13. Michigan State	12-2	262
14. Cincinnati	14-2	262
15. Virginia	12-2	262
16. Alabama	13-1	262
17. Wisconsin	12-2	262
18. Wake Forest	19-1	262
19. Kentucky	17-1	262
20. Marquette	12-2	262

**Others receiving votes:** George Washington, 14; UCLA, 49; Texas Tech, 49; Virginia Tech, 26; Florida, 27; Maryland, 27; North Carolina, 27; Illinois, 22; Oregon, 22; N.C. State, 6; Vermont, 6; Michigan State, 5; Old Dominion, 5; Wake Forest, 4; Nevada, 2; Bucknell, 1; St. Mary's, 1; California, 1.

### AP Men's Top 25 fared

**Monday**  
 1. Illinois (18-0) did not play. Next vs. N.C. State.  
 2. Kansas (13-1) did not play. Next vs. Nebraska.  
 3. Wake Forest (19-1) did not play. Next at Florida State.  
 4. Oklahoma State (13-1) did not play. Next at Florida State.  
 5. Kentucky (17-1) did not play. Next at Miami.  
 6. Syracuse (17-1) did not play. Next at Miami.  
 7. North Carolina (14-2) did not play. Next at Clemson.  
 8. Wisconsin (18-1) did not play. Next at Georgetown.  
 9. Gonzaga (13-1) did not play. Next at Mississippi.  
 10. Georgetown Tech (13-1) did not play. Next at Mississippi.  
 11. Arizona (14-2) did not play. Next vs. Villanova.  
 12. Louisiana (13-1) did not play. Next vs. Washington State.  
 13. Michigan State (12-2) did not play. Next at San Francisco.  
 14. Cincinnati (14-2) did not play. Next at San Francisco.  
 15. Virginia (12-2) did not play. Next at San Francisco.  
 16. Alabama (13-1) did not play. Next at San Francisco.  
 17. Wisconsin (12-2) did not play. Next at San Francisco.  
 18. Wake Forest (19-1) did not play. Next at San Francisco.  
 19. Kentucky (17-1) did not play. Next at San Francisco.  
 20. Marquette (12-2) did not play. Next at San Francisco.

12. Georgia Tech (11-4) did not play. Next vs. Virginia Tech, Saturday.  
 13. Arizona (14-2) did not play. Next at Oregon, Thursday.  
 14. Oklahoma State (13-1) did not play. Next vs. East Carolina, Wednesday.  
 15. Kentucky (17-1) did not play. Next vs. Oklahoma State, Saturday.  
 16. Syracuse (17-1) did not play. Next at Seton Hall, Saturday.  
 17. North Carolina (14-2) did not play. Next at Miami, Saturday.  
 18. Wisconsin (18-1) did not play. Next at Georgetown, Saturday.  
 19. Gonzaga (13-1) did not play. Next at Seton Hall, Saturday.  
 20. Georgetown Tech (13-1) did not play. Next at Seton Hall, Saturday.  
 21. Arizona (14-2) did not play. Next at Seton Hall, Saturday.  
 22. Louisiana (13-1) did not play. Next at Seton Hall, Saturday.  
 23. Michigan State (12-2) did not play. Next at Seton Hall, Saturday.  
 24. Cincinnati (14-2) did not play. Next at Seton Hall, Saturday.  
 25. Virginia (12-2) did not play. Next at Seton Hall, Saturday.  
 26. Alabama (13-1) did not play. Next at Seton Hall, Saturday.  
 27. Wisconsin (12-2) did not play. Next at Seton Hall, Saturday.  
 28. Wake Forest (19-1) did not play. Next at Seton Hall, Saturday.  
 29. Kentucky (17-1) did not play. Next at Seton Hall, Saturday.  
 30. Marquette (12-2) did not play. Next at Seton Hall, Saturday.

### AP Men's Top 25 schedule

**Tuesday's games**  
 No. 3 Wake Forest at Florida State  
 No. 7 Syracuse vs. Georgetown  
 No. 17 Mississippi State at No. 22 Alabama  
 No. 18 Oklahoma at Texas A&M  
 No. 19 Michigan State vs. Purdue  
 No. 21 Pittsburgh vs. St. John's at Madison Square Garden

### Wednesday's games

No. 2 Kansas vs. Nebraska  
 No. 4 Duke at Miami  
 No. 6 North Carolina at Clemson  
 No. 8 Kentucky at Mississippi  
 No. 9 Boston College vs. Villanova  
 No. 10 Louisville vs. East Carolina  
 No. 20 Cincinnati vs. Charlotte  
 No. 24 Louisville vs. East Carolina  
 No. 1. Illinois vs. No. 23 Iowa  
 No. 11 Gonzaga at San Francisco  
 No. 12 Georgetown at San Francisco  
 No. 25 Marquette at DePaul

### AP Women's Top 25 schedule

**Tuesday's games**  
 No. 2 Kansas at Villanova  
 No. 4 Duke at Miami  
 No. 6 North Carolina at Clemson  
 No. 8 Kentucky at Mississippi  
 No. 9 Boston College vs. Villanova  
 No. 10 Louisville vs. East Carolina  
 No. 20 Cincinnati vs. Charlotte  
 No. 24 Louisville vs. East Carolina  
 No. 1. Illinois vs. No. 23 Iowa  
 No. 11 Gonzaga at San Francisco  
 No. 12 Georgetown at San Francisco  
 No. 25 Marquette at DePaul

### AP Women's Top 25

The top 25 teams in The Associated Press women's college basketball poll. Teams with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Jan. 16. Total points scored and points per game for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote and last five points ranking.

	Record	Pts
1. Duke (31)	16-1	1,099
2. LSU (13)	16-1	1,099
3. Notre Dame	16-1	1,099
4. Baylor	12-2	934
5. Connecticut	12-2	934
6. Rutgers	12-2	888
7. North Carolina	12-2	888
8. Michigan State	12-2	888
9. Auburn	12-2	888
10. Texas Tech	12-2	703
11. Texas	12-2	703
12. Minnesota	12-2	694
13. Kentucky	12-2	694
14. Boston College	12-2	614
15. Maryland	12-2	614
16. DePaul	12-2	614
17. Virginia Tech	12-2	614
18. Iowa	12-2	614
19. Georgia	12-2	614
20. Purdue	12-2	614

### AP Women's Top 25 schedule

**Monday's games**  
 No. 1 Duke (31) vs. No. 2 LSU  
 No. 3 Notre Dame vs. No. 4 Baylor  
 No. 5 Connecticut vs. No. 6 Rutgers  
 No. 7 North Carolina vs. No. 8 Michigan State  
 No. 9 Auburn vs. No. 10 Texas Tech  
 No. 11 Texas vs. No. 12 Minnesota  
 No. 13 Kentucky vs. No. 14 Boston College  
 No. 15 Maryland vs. No. 16 DePaul  
 No. 17 Virginia Tech vs. No. 18 Iowa  
 No. 19 Georgia vs. No. 20 Purdue  
 No. 21 Wake Forest vs. No. 22 Georgia Tech  
 No. 23 Florida State vs. No. 24 Clemson  
 No. 25 South Carolina vs. No. 26 Mississippi State  
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# NHL, union to meet for first time in more than month

By IRA PODELL

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — For the first time in more than a month, a group of officials from the NHL and the players' association will meet Wednesday in what could be a last-ditch effort to save the hockey season.

"We think it is appropriate and hopefully useful to engage in these discussions at this time," Ted Sasaki, the union's senior director, said Monday. "We are not meeting to present a new proposal and remain committed to reaching a fair deal that does not include a salary cap."

## Session could be last-ditch effort to save season

Monday marked the 124th day of the lockout. So far, the NHL has resisted announcing a drop-dead date in which a collective bargaining agreement must be made to save this season. But with 650 regular-season games plus this year's All-Star Game, already canceled, it appears that time is short to make a deal.

NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman and players' association executive director Bob Goodenow, who have butted heads throughout the process, are expected to sit out this session. The idea to

meet in a smaller group was hatched by players' association president Trevor Linden.

Linden, Sasaki and outside counsel John McCambridge will represent the players. Calgary Flames part owner Harley Hotchkiss, the chairman of the NHL's board of governors, Bill Daly, the NHL's chief legal officer, and outside counsel Bob Barmann, will be present for the owners.

The NHL is not expected to make a new proposal at the meeting, either.

The sides have not met since

Dec. 14 when the NHL rejected the union's proposal — made five days earlier. A counteroffer made by the league also was rejected by the players during that session in Toronto.

The players' association got talks restarted in December, after three months of silence, with a proposal centered on an immediate 24-percent salary roll-back on all existing contracts. Owners rejected that plan and countered with a salary-cap structured offer.

The NHLPA is adamant that it

will never accept a salary cap. The union's offer featured a luxury-tax and revenue-sharing system.

Bettman has said that he has no interest in a luxury tax.

During the 103-day lockout that disrupted the 1994-95 season, an agreement was reached on Jan. 11, 1995, allowing for a 48-game season that began nine days later. If the season is wiped out, it would mark the first time in 86 years that the Stanley Cup wasn't awarded. A flu epidemic canceled the 1919 final series between Montreal and Seattle. No North American sports league has lost an entire season due to a labor dispute.

# Teen Wie invited to play in LPGA Championship

The Associated Press

HAVRE DE GRACE, Md. — Michelle Wie accepted an invitation Monday to play in the LPGA Championship, making it likely the 15-year-old golfer will compete in all four of the women's majors this year.

Wie and other top amateurs like Paula Creamer and Jane Park have not played the McDonald's LPGA Championship because it was for professionals. But the tournament expanded its field from 144 to 150 players, offering one of those additional spots to a "leading amateur."

Three extra exemptions will go to a top player from the Korea Ladies, the Japan LPGA and the Ladies European Tour, and the remaining spots will go to the next two LPGA Tour players from a priority list.

The LPGA Championship will be played June 9-12 at Bulle Rock.

Annika Sorenstam is the two-time defending champion, having won both titles at DuPont Country Club in Wilmington, Del.

"We could not be happier having Michelle Wie in our field," tournament co-founder Herb Lotman said. "This is what ladies' golf is all about ... the best of the best competing in one field and showcasing all of our outstanding golf course."

Wie already accepted an amateur exemption to the Kraft Nabisco Championship on March 24-27,

## Sports briefs

and she is exempt to the U.S. Women's Open in late June because she tied for 13th a year ago.

She is expected to get an exemption to the Women's British Open at Royal Birkdale in July.

Wie is coming off her second appearance on the PGA Tour, shooting rounds of 75-74 in the Sony Open to miss the cut by seven shots.

### Bryant doesn't have fracture but out at least two weeks

LOS ANGELES — Lakers star Kobe Bryant will be sidelined at least two more weeks with a severely sprained right ankle.

Team spokesman John Black said before the Lakers faced the Utah Jazz on Monday night that the NBA's second-leading scorer was examined earlier in the day by team physician Dr. Steve Lombardo and foot specialist Philip Kwong.

A CT scan confirmed there was no fracture.

"Kobe will be re-evaluated in approximately one week," Black said. "He has made improvement. He still can't put weight on his right foot."

Black said there was no target date for Bryant's return.

"We're just saying a minimum of two weeks," Black said. "We'll have a better idea next week."

Should Bryant return in two weeks, he'll miss a minimum of six more games and eight overall.

Bryant, hurt in the first quarter of Thursday night's victory over Cleveland, was placed on the injured list Saturday.

"We were hoping for far better, but that's the way it is in this league," Lakers coach Rudy Tomjanovich said regarding Bryant's status. "You can always hope. I'm not a medical guy."

When asked what the Lakers do differently without Bryant, Tomjanovich replied: "We just run different plays. There's plays where he's the focal point. Obviously, we're not running a lot of them."

Bryant was injured when he landed on Cleveland forward Ira Newble's right foot while going for a rebound.

### Mavericks coach Nelson to undergo shoulder surgery

DALLAS — Mavericks coach Don Nelson will have shoulder surgery Thursday and is expected to be out for three weeks.

Assistant Avery Johnson will run the team in his absence.

Nelson planned to work Tuesday night's game against the Washington Wizards; Johnson will be in charge starting Thursday night against the Los Angeles Clippers.

Dallas is in second place in the Southwest Division.

Nelson, 64, said an MRI exam



AP

Michelle Wie is expected to receive an invitation to play in the Women's British Open, which would put her in the field for all four majors.

showed his right rotator cuff is 90 percent torn.

Johnson, in his first season in transition from point guard to assistant, is Nelson's hand-picked successor. He's already run games as the head coach and will have longtime NBA coach Del Harris, another of Nelson's assistants, alongside for advice.

Nelson missed 21 games in the 2000-01 season because of prostate cancer. He left for two games the following season when his wife fought breast cancer.

### Magic, Cavs activate centers

Orlando Magic center Andrew DeClercq was activated from the injured list on Tuesday. The nine-year veteran has been sidelined all season after surgery on his right knee.

The Cleveland Cavaliers activated center DeSagana Diop and put guard Dajuan Wagner on the injured list Monday.

### Suspended Pitt guard charged with burglary, simple assault

PITTSBURGH — Suspended Pittsburgh guard Yuri Demetris faces burglary and simple assault charges after allegedly entering a

former girlfriend's apartment twice through a bedroom window and hitting her with a closed fist, university police said Monday.

Demetris, suspended indefinitely by basketball coach Jamie Dixon after being arrested Sunday, will have a preliminary hearing Thursday.

Dixon said Sunday that Demetris would not practice while serving the suspension, but did not mention the player's arrest.

### World Cup tickets to go on sale Feb. 1

HAMBURG, Germany — Tickets for the 2006 World Cup go on sale online Feb. 1, with 850,000 of the 3.2 million seats available in the first stage.

Each fan will be able to order up to four tickets for seven games each. Applications will be processed by lottery after the first two months of sales. Tickets for the 64 games also will be offered when World Cup qualifications end this year and after the final draw.

The tournament begins June 9, 2006, in Munich and ends a month later in Berlin.

For more information online: [www.FIFAworldcup.com](http://www.FIFAworldcup.com).

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# HOME TEAM

## A WEEKLY LOOK AT LOCAL SPORTS

# Something's cooking

### Class AA host Seoul American might have ingredients for title

BY DAVE ORNAUER  
Stars and Stripes

Overlooking the Seoul American girls basketball team could be easy, given the boys' exploits the past couple of years, including two Far East championships—and given that the Falcons girls haven't won a Far East Class AA Tournament since May 1984.

Still, coach Charlotte Hicks and the Falcons have fashioned a distinguished record over the years. They've:

■ Won outright or shared the Korean-American Interscholastic Activities Council crown with Osan American every season since 1992-93.

■ Placed third in every Class AA tournament since 1998.

But now the team has a strong core of senior leaders and mentors who bode well for the future. Seoul American is hosting the Class AA tournament for the first time and, Hicks said, she hopes this may be the year the Falcons take the final step.

"You don't know how nice it would be," said Hicks, in her 19th season at the Falcons' helm.

Toward that goal, the team got off to its usual strong start. Through Saturday, Hicks & Co. were 7-0 in KAIAF play, a half-game ahead of this season's strongest competitor, Taegu American, and two games ahead of Osan.

But the keys to a potential title

drive rest in two ingredients not on the stat sheets: chemistry and motivation.

"This is not the most talented group I've had but the chemistry seems to click," Hicks said of a team led by a trio of seniors: scorer Janel Daniels, rebounding specialist Whitney Smith and point guard Amy Bakameyer.

"Janel hates to lose and that's beginning to rub off on these kids. She does other things on the floor besides score. She's aggressive. She and Amy work really well together," Hicks said.

Joining them is a solid supporting cast of freshmen, including Jeovanna Green, Angie Law and Erika Anglade, younger sister of two-time All-Far East guard Olivia Anglade. Junior Chivonne Floyd and senior Ramie Gibson round out the group.

The elder Anglade's influence, Hicks said, has rubbed off on Bakameyer.

"She has realized some of the qualities that [Anglade] had. Assists, leadership and tenacity on the court, she never gives up. ... She only knows how to play one way—hard."

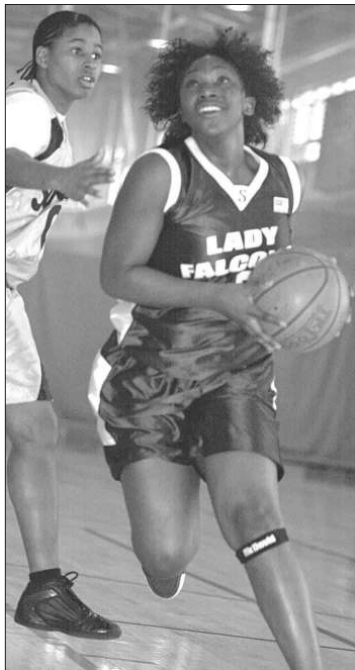
Smith is "able to play very well on the defensive end, she boxes out well, she wants to play so badly," Hicks said. "She wants to be like Janel. She doesn't have the tools but she's always out there and works hard."

And they get along like family, the players insist.

SEE COOKING ON PAGE 30

*"This is not the most talented group I've had but the chemistry seems to click."*

**Charlotte Hicks**  
Seoul American girls basketball coach



DAVE ORNAUER/Stars and Stripes

Seniors Janel Daniels, above right, Whitney Smith and Amy Bakameyer give the Seoul American Lady Falcons a good chance to win their first Class AA girls basketball championship since 1984.

### Anthony Garcia

Wrestling  
Zama American Japan

Last week: Went unbeaten in five bouts and earned Outstanding Wrestler honors in Saturday's Robert D. Edgren Invitational Tournament at Misawa Air Base. The Trojans beat the Yokota Panthers 28-26 in a Kanto Plain Association of Secondary Schools dual meet and took second at Edgren.

Garcia began the week with a superior decision, 12-2 in second rounds, 56 seconds, over Tom Gorman of Yokota, then won all four of his bouts in the Edgren Invitational. The senior 122-pounder is 12-1 this season.

"He goes about his business, never has ever had trouble making weight, he's very tough," said coach Ian Harlow of Garcia, who was one of his early building blocks two years ago when he took over the program. "He's one of those naturally gifted wrestlers. Body positioning, overall technique—he was kind of just born with it. He's just an all-around athlete. I'm going to really be sad to see him go."

Selected by Stars and Stripes staff.

### Elizabeth Cotto

Gymnastics  
Kadena, Okinawa

Last week: Helped spark a rally from a 21-11 halftime deficit by scoring 12 of her 16 points in the second half of the Panthers' 52-37 victory over the Kubasaki Dragons at the Panther Pit in a battle of the past two Far East Class AA Tournament champions.

Cotto, a junior, has been scoring in double digits the entire season. But after a lackluster last week with coach Ken Hudson, in which he challenged her to step up her game, Cotto "turned it up a notch or two," he said.

She added 11 rebounds, three steals and three assists against Kubasaki. "She's accepted the challenge. She's meeting the challenge," Hudson said. "Liz has always been goal-oriented. She's very organized. She thinks things through and plans ahead. Most things with her are very methodical. She's obviously a hard worker. She could do whatever it is she wants to do."

Selected by Stars and Stripes staff.

### This week's schedule

**Boys basketball**  
Friday, Jan. 22  
American School in Japan at St. Mary's Int'l, 5:30 p.m.; Zama American at Christian Academy in Japan, 5:30 p.m.  
**Girls basketball**  
Thursday, Jan. 22  
Matthew C. Perry and Nile C. Kinick at Zama, 10 a.m.

**Tuesday, Jan. 25**  
American School in Japan at Christian Academy in Japan, 5:30 p.m.; Yokota at St. Mary's Int'l, 5:30 p.m.

**Friday, Jan. 20**  
Yokota at American School in Japan, 5:30 p.m.

**Friday, Jan. 21**  
Nile C. Kinick at Robert D. Edgren, 5:30 p.m.; Christian Academy in Japan at Zama American, 5:30 p.m.; Int'l School of the Sacred Heart at Selen Int'l, 5:30 p.m.; Christian Academy in Japan vs. Matthew C. Perry at Camp Zama, 7 p.m.

**Saturday, Jan. 22**  
Nile C. Kinick at Robert D. Edgren, 10 a.m.; Matthew C. Perry at Zama American, 10 a.m.; American School in Japan at Int'l School of the Sacred Heart, 1 p.m.

**Tuesday, Jan. 25**  
Christian Academy in Japan at St. Mary's Int'l, 5:30 p.m.

**Wrestling**  
Thursday, Jan. 22  
Christian Academy in Japan at American School in Japan, 9 a.m.

**Saturday, Jan. 22**  
American School in Japan Invitational, 9 a.m.

**Wednesday, Jan. 26**  
American School in Japan at St. Mary's Int'l, 5:30 p.m.

**Korea Basketball**  
Friday, Jan. 21  
Taegu American at Seoul American, 3:30 p.m.; Seoul Foreign at Seoul Int'l, 3:30 p.m.; Int'l Christian-Seoul at Pusan American, 3:30 p.m.; Int'l Christian-Uljin at Int'l Christian-Pyeong-tak, 3:30 p.m.; Taegu Christian Int'l at Osan American, 4 p.m.

**Saturday, Jan. 22**  
Taegu Christian Int'l at Seoul American, 9 a.m.; Taegu American at Osan American, 9 a.m.; Int'l Christian-Uljin at Pusan American, 10 a.m.; Int'l Christian-Seoul at Int'l Christian-Pyeong-tak, 3:30 p.m.

**Wednesday, Jan. 26**  
Korea Kori Fong at Int'l Christian-Uljin, 2 p.m.; Seoul American at Seoul Int'l, 3:30 p.m.; Oosan American at Int'l Christian-Seoul, 3:30 p.m.

**Girls basketball**  
Friday, Jan. 21  
Konan at Kubasaki, 7 p.m.; Oroku at Kaduna, 7 p.m.

**Girls basketball**  
Friday, Jan. 21  
Koza at Kaduna, 5 p.m.; Urasue Shogyo at Kubasaki, 5:30 p.m.

**Team**  
Boys basketball  
(all start times 5:30 p.m.)  
Friday, Jan. 21  
Father Duquesne Memorial vs. Guam High at Mocol Elementary/Middle; John F. Kennedy at St. John's Southern vs. Harvest Christian Academy at Sports Complex, Dedded; St. Paul Christian vs. Simon Sanchez at Yigo Gym.

**Saturday, Jan. 22**  
Guam High at John F. Kennedy; George Washington at St. John's Southern at St. Paul Christian; Harvest Christian Academy vs. Simon Sanchez at Yigo Gym.

**Tuesday, Jan. 25**  
John F. Kennedy at Father Duquesne Memorial; Simon Sanchez vs. Guam High at Mocol Elementary/Middle; St. Paul Christian Academy vs. George Washington at Sports Complex, Dedded; Washington at St. John's.

**Wrestling**  
Saturday, Jan. 22  
At Simon Sanchez High School, Yigo (start times 7:30 p.m.): Guam High vs. Simon Sanchez; Southern vs. Simon Sanchez; John F. Kennedy vs. Southern; John F. Kennedy vs. Father Duquesne Memorial; Guam High vs. Father Duquesne Memorial.

**Game of the week**  
American School in Japan Invitational Tournament  
Where: 9 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 22  
Where: Amer. School in Japan, Tokyo.  
What: Second of four in-season tournaments in which JCOOS/Japan teams and international school teams compete in the same venue.

Wrestlers to watch: The ASIJ tournament will feature two wrestlers who won Far East tournament individual titles in October. In February at Yokota: Yoshiya Morita (138 pounds) and Jordan Foxwell (115) of Christian and Sacred Heart (112) of St. Mary's.

In Japan, two-time champion Mark Strickland (122) and David Barnett (nearly 100) of American School in Japan have won gold in all three tournaments so far this season. At St. Wood (138), Yamato Chikuba (158) and Kenji Doughty (148) of Kinick and James Scott (135) of Yokota.







# Clemens as for \$22 million

## Arbitration submission breaks Jeter's 2001 record

RONALD BLUM  
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Roger Clemens filed for a record \$22 million in salary arbitration on Tuesday, and the Houston Astros offered the seven-time Cy Young Award winner \$13.5 million.

The Rocket, who helped lead the Astros within one win of their first World Series appearance, still has not decided whether to pitch this year or retire.

Until now, the highest figure ever submitted for arbitration was \$18.5 million in 2001 by New York Yankees shortstop Derek Jeter, who then agreed to a \$189 million, 10-year deal.

The highest salary ever earned by a pitcher in a single season

was \$17.5 million, last year by Boston's Pedro Martinez.

Clemens, 42, left the Yankees at the 2003 season and intended to retire. But after former teammate Andy Pettitte signed with the Astros, Clemens was persuaded to sign with his hometown club.

He took an undermarket deal that guaranteed him \$5 million, of which \$3.5 million was deferred without interest until July 1, 2006. Clemens earned an additional \$1,825,000 in bonuses based on his selection to the NL All-Star team and Houston's home attendance, which was more than 3.3 million, including the postseason.

The \$8.5 million spread between his figure and the Astros' was exactly double the previous

high in salary arbitration — the Yankees filed at \$14.25 million with Jeter in 2001. The midpoint of \$17.75 million is just above the highest listed salary for a pitcher this season — Randy Johnson's salary with the New York Yankees is calculated at \$16.5 million, including a prorated share of the \$1 million personal-services contract he agreed to with the Arizona Diamondbacks before he was traded.

Clemens had a remarkable season, going 18-4 with a 2.98 ERA and 218 strikeouts. As he did last winter, he says he is leaning to slow retirement but has not ruled out playing.

Astros outfielder Lance Berkman, who is eligible for free agency after next season, asked for



**Seven-time Cy Young winner Roger Clemens was offered \$13.5 million by the Astros.**

\$11 million and the team offered \$10 million.

If settlements are not reached, hearings before panels of three arbitrators will be held next month.

# Red Sox sign 2B Belhorn, RHP Arroyo

The Associated Press

BOSTON — The Boston Red Sox agreed to one-year contracts with second baseman Mark Belhorn and right-hander Bronson Arroyo on Tuesday, ending salary arbitration with both players.

Arroyo will make \$1.85 million in 2005 after earning \$332,500 last season. Belhorn, who earned \$490,000 last year, will earn \$2.75 million this season.

Belhorn, 30, set career highs with a .264 batting average, 37 doubles, 82 RBIs, 93 runs and 88 walks in 138 games for the Red Sox. His postseason heroics included a go-ahead two-run homer in the eighth inning of Game 1 of the World Series against the St. Louis Cardinals and a three-run homer in the fourth inning of Game 6 of the AL championship series, a 4-2 victory over the New York Yankees.

Arroyo, 27, went 10-9 with a 4.03 ERA in 32 games, including 29 starts, for the Red Sox in his first full major league season. He went 5-0 with a 3.78 ERA in his last nine starts, all Red Sox wins.

In other deals Tuesday:

Former All-Star shortstop Jimmy Rollins and the Philadelphia Phillies agreed Tuesday to a \$3.85 million, one-year contract, and versatile infielder Placido Polanco also avoided arbitration with a \$4.6 million contract for 2005.

Pitcher Jarrod Washburn agreed to a \$6.5 million, one-year contract with the Angels, avoiding arbitration along with pitcher Scot Shields and catcher Jose Molina.

Shields agreed to a one-year, \$925,000 contract that includes an additional \$25,000 bonus if he pitches 65 games. The right-handed reliever earned \$375,000 last season.

Molina agreed to a \$725,000, one-year deal with bonuses of \$12,500 each for 235 or 304 plate appearances.

Closer Octavio Dotel and outfielder Bobby Kielty agreed to

## Baseball roundup

one-year contracts with the Oakland Athletics.

The 31-year-old Dotel, who will earn \$4.75 million this season after receiving \$3.15 million in 2004, came to the A's in a trade with Houston last June 24 after the A's demoted closer Arthur Rhodes, a former setup man with Seattle who was trying ninth-inning work for the first time.

Lopez, who led the team with 14 wins and finished with a 3.59 ERA, agreed at \$2,375,000. He can earn an additional \$200,000 in incentives, based on innings pitched.

Second baseman Jerry Hairston and pitchers Rodrigo Lopez and B.J. Ryan agreed to a one-year contracts with the Baltimore Orioles.

Ryan, who led the team with 14 wins and finished with a 3.59 ERA, agreed at \$2,375,000. He can earn an additional \$200,000 in incentives, based on innings pitched. Ryan, who could become the full-time closer this season, agreed to a \$2.6 million contract that includes another \$200,000 in incentives based on games finished. He would earn \$50,000 for finishing 45 games, and an additional \$50,000 for finishing 50, 55 and 60 games.

Hairston signed for \$1.8 million and can obtain another \$350,000 based on plate appearances ranging from 400 to 600. He made \$1.65 million last year.

The Chicago Cubs agreed to a \$12 million, three-year contract Tuesday with catcher Michael Barrett and one-year deals with center fielder Corey Patterson and reliever Kyle Farnsworth.

Farnsworth got a raise from \$1.4 million to \$1,975,000. The catcher, who made \$490,000 last season, received an increase to \$2.8 million.

Barrett, who made \$1.55 million last season, had asked for

\$3.9 million in arbitration while the Cubs offered \$3 million before the \$3 million deal was reached.

Barrett batted 287 with a career-high 16 homers and 65 RBIs in 130 games, including 19 starts.

Farnsworth, whose fastball has been clocked at 100 mph, appeared in 72 games last season with a 4-5 record and 473 ERA as a setup and situational reliever.

Patterson, 25, batted .266 last season with career highs in doubles (32), homers (24), RBI (72) and stolen bases (32) in his first full season after tearing the anterior cruciate ligament in his left knee.

Florida Marlins right-hander Josh Beckett agreed to a \$2.4 million, one-year contract, leaving the team with no players in arbitration.

The deal represented a 59 percent raise for Beckett despite a disappointing 2004 season. Florida officials met again with the agent for free-agent slugger Carlos Delgado, who is being courted by four teams.

The meeting was very productive, agent David Slovic said in an e-mail. "We will be talking with the Marlins again very soon in an effort to further clarify our areas of mutual concern."

Slovic said he spoke briefly with Baltimore Orioles executive vice president Jim Beattie. Texas and the New York Mets are also pursuing Delgado.

Beckett went 9-9 in 2004 with a 3.79 ERA and three starts on the disabled list. He had his contract renewed by the Marlins at \$1,509,375 last year after he was the MVP of the 2003 World Series.

Pirates outfielder/first baseman Craig Wilson right-hander and Josh Fogg agreed to one-year contracts.

The Pirates also exchanged figures with their lone remaining arbitration-eligible player, utilityman Rob Mackowiak. He is seeking \$1.8 million and the club is offering \$1.35 million.

Wilson, coming off an inconsistent but promising 29-homer season, will make \$3 million — a big boost from his 2004 salary of \$1.35 million.

Fogg, who overcame a poor start last season to finish 11-10 with a 4.64 ERA, will make \$2.15 million and can earn an additional \$200,000 in performance bonuses based on games started and innings pitched. He made \$342,000 last season.

The St. Louis Cardinals and left-hander Rick Ankiel agreed to a \$400,000, one-year contract.

Ankiel, 25, spent most of last season on the disabled list following reconstructive elbow surgery in July 2003. He appeared in five September games in relief and won his first major league game in more than three seasons on Oct. 1, beating the Brewers.

Left-hander Ron Villone and the Seattle Mariners agreed to a \$4.2 million, two-year contract.

Right-hander Tomo Ohka agreed to a \$2.75 million, one-year contract with the Washington Nationals, a raise of \$412,500.

The Texas Rangers agreed to a one-year, \$1.1 million contract with outfielder Gary Matthews Jr.

The Colorado Rockies locked up two key parts of their rotation, agreeing to contracts with right-hander Jason Jennings and lefty Joe Kennedy.

The Chicago White Sox agreed to a \$1.3 million, one-year contract with right-hander Luis Vizcaino.

Third baseman Sam Burroughs agreed to a \$1,075,000 one-year contract with the San Diego Padres, nearly five times what he made last year. The Padres also agreed to terms on minor league contracts with right-handers Joe Dawley, Brian Falkenberg and Danny Patterson, and catcher Michael Hernandez.

All were invited to spring training with the big league club.

Right-hander Brandon Lyon and the Arizona Diamondbacks agreed to a \$330,000, one-year contract.

# Dodgers, Gagne agree on \$19M deal

BY BETH HARRIS

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Former Cy Young Award winner Eric Gagne avoided another difficult salary arbitration hearing with the Los Angeles Dodgers, agreeing Tuesday to a \$19 million, two-year contract.

Gagne and the Dodgers agreed to the deal just before they were scheduled to exchange figures in salary arbitration. He remains eligible to become a free agent after the 2006 season.

A year ago, Gagne was awarded \$5 million by a panel of three arbitrators rather than his \$8 million request. Gagne, 33, avoided another NL Cy Young Award in 2003.

Gagne had a 7-3 record with a 2.19 ERA last season. He had 45 saves in 70 games, struck out 114 and walked 22.

He pitched three innings in two games of the NL division series, which the Dodgers lost to St. Louis 3-1. It was the team's first postseason appearance since 1996.

Reaching a deal with Gagne could help the Dodgers pacify fans angry about some of the team's other offseason moves.

The Dodgers lost offensive punch when they failed to re-sign free agent Adrian Beltré and outfielder Shawn Green, who went to Arizona. Beltré left for Seattle after having a career season. The team also cut loose outfielder Steve Finley, pitcher Jose Lima and second baseman Alex Cora.

A day earlier, Los Angeles reached a \$99 million, three-year agreement with Gold Glove shortstop Cesar Izturis.

Gagne will close for a starting rotation that includes new comer Derek Lowe, Odalis Perez, Jeff Weaver and Brad Penny.

Gagne will close for a starting rotation that includes new comer Derek Lowe, Odalis Perez, Jeff Weaver and Brad Penny.



**Los Angeles Dodgers closer Eric Gagne avoided another difficult salary arbitration hearing by signing Tuesday.**

# Steelers expect improved play from Roethlisberger

## Mistakes will be more costly this week

BY ALAN ROBINSON

The Associated Press

### PITTSBURGH

Alan Faneca must be trying to motivate Ben Roethlisberger again.

The offensive lineman said the Pittsburgh Steelers badly need Roethlisberger to upgrade his play for Sunday's AFC championship game against New England, after the rookie quarterback's errors nearly led to a play-off loss to the New York Jets.

"He's going to have to pick his game up," Faneca said Monday. "We're all going to have to pick our game up, and it's going to take our best effort of the season to win this week."

Roethlisberger, the NFL's Offensive Rookie of the Year, threw two interceptions — one for a touchdown and another creating Doug Brien's potential game-winning field goal try — and got nothing going as the Jets scored 17 consecutive points in the second and third quarters.

The Steelers came back to win 20-17 in overtime Saturday, but only after Brien missed two field goal tries in the final two minutes of the fourth quarter.

"He was off a little bit, but we were all off a little bit as an offense," Faneca said.

Faneca wasn't singling out the rookie, but said that kind of quarterback play won't be good enough — not after the Super Bowl champion Patriots held NFL MVP Peyton Manning's high-output Colts offense to a field goal in a 20-3 win Sunday.

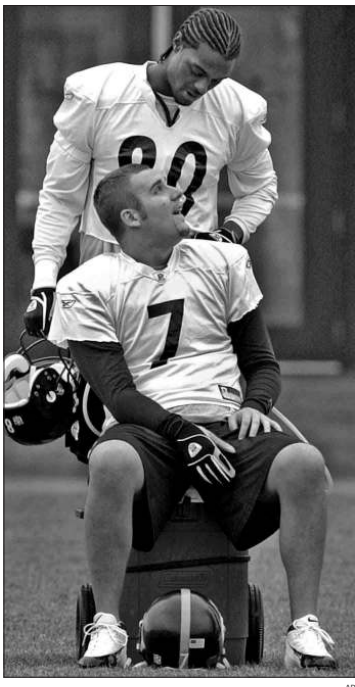
Still, Faneca's motivating words were reminiscent of those the day after former starting quarterback Tommy Maddox injured an elbow Sept. 19 in Baltimore, making Roethlisberger the starter by default.

Then, Faneca said he wasn't overly excited about going into a game with "some little young kid who's just out of college" rather than a veteran like Maddox. Roethlisberger went on to lead the Steelers to a 13-3 victory in Miami.

If Roethlisberger picked up a Sunday newspaper, and he insists he doesn't, he would have read fan comments such as for Tommy Maddox to replace him despite an unequalled 14-0 record as a starter.

"He had a rough game, people were really down on him and said he played bad, but he's a young quarterback, and he has a lot in his face right now," linebacker James Farrior said. "But he's such a good player, he knows how to handle every situation like he's done it all year, and he's sure to do the same this week."

Especially since the Patriots will likely try to be in the rookie's



Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger (7) suffered through a miserable game against the Jets, but Pittsburgh still won. He likely won't be as lucky this week if he has a similar performance against the Patriots.

face all night, something they didn't do in their 34-20 loss in Pittsburgh on Oct. 31. Roethlisberger threw two touchdown passes to Plaxico Burress as the Steelers opened a 21-3 lead in the first quarter and went on to end New England's 21-game winning streak.

Faneca thinks Roethlisberger will be just fine if he quickly moves on to the Patriots and doesn't keep replaying the mistakes against New York.

"Everybody always wants to know how he handles the pressure, the setbacks," Faneca said. "Just like everybody else, nobody likes it, but you've got to think about it for a minute, brush it off and move on to the next play."

That's how Ben's been handling things all year."

The Steelers don't sound overly concerned that, unlike the other NFL division champions coming off a first-week bye — the Patriots, Falcons and Eagles — they struggled in their playoff opener. The Jets nearly won despite not scoring a touchdown offensively in either game against Pittsburgh this season.

The Steelers' message seems to be: This week, not last week, is the week they must play well.

"We have all the confidence in the world in Ben," cornerback Deshaun Townsend said. "We were 1-51 during the season because of him. He's a very confident guy, very poised for a rookie and I'm sure he'll do fine."

# Marine at Iwakuni wins overall award in NFL Challenge

Stars and Stripes

The recently completed NFL season proved to be profitable for a Marine Corps master sergeant assigned to Iwakuni Air Station in Japan.

James "Woody" Biggs, 37, of Folsom, Calif., correctly guessed the outcome of 167 out of 254 selected games in the 2004 NFL season, outdistancing 1,936 other entrants for the grand prize of \$1,000 in the NFL Challenge, a season-long contest sponsored by Stars and Stripes and Oconee.com.

"I was shocked, to be honest with you," said Biggs, assigned to Marine Aircraft Group-12.

The contest began at the start of the NFL season. Each week, entrants picked winners of each NFL game, while also putting a number of points on each game that indicated confidence in each selection.

Biggs won the first week of the contest, garnering a \$100 gift certificate courtesy of TeamStore.com, and remained in the top five the rest of the way. But he confessed to worry about "two

guys with me who were really good competitors."

In Week 15 of the 17-week season, he said, he "picked a couple of games that went sour," including San Diego over Indianapolis, a game the Colts won 34-31 in overtime. He fell to sixth place at that juncture.

"When Week 17 came up, I kept saying to myself, I gotta nail it," Biggs said. He picked 10 of the 16 games correctly "But I put the right amount of points on the right amount of games and managed to get lucky," he said.

Biggs, who has played the NFL Challenge all three years it has been contested, became the third straight overall winner stationed in Japan. He also became the first overall winner to snare one of the weekly prizes.

Though originally from California, Biggs proudly proclaims himself a "lifelong Pittsburgh Steelers fan" and entered the NFL Challenge under the pseudonym "SteelFrogWood."

So what does Biggs plan to do with the \$1,000 prize?

"Pay bills," he said. "Christmas."

# Sherman moving on with diminished role

The Associated Press

GREEN BAY, Wis. — Mike Sherman plans to make the best of his diminished role with the Green Bay Packers.

Sherman will stay on as coach after being stripped of his general manager duties over the weekend. He said Monday that he'd like to remain in Green Bay beyond 2005, when his contract expires, but stressed that he was up to new boss Ted Thompson.

Sherman said he never considered quitting after losing the GM title.

"I've never resigned from anything in my life. I'm not about to do it over this. I still have the best job in the National Football League," Sherman said.

Sherman is due \$3.2 million in 2005, and team President Bob Harlan said that salary won't be slashed with his decreased duties.

In his first public comments since the front-office shake-up, Sherman said Monday he was proud of the job he did as GM but refused to criticize Harlan's decision to demote him.

"I think as any competitor, you hate to let go of anything," Sherman said. "I would be lying to say that that was an easy thing for me. But after you digest everything and you understand the reasons for why things are done, it is what it is and you move forward."

**Ravens hire Fassel, Neuheisel**

OWINGS MILLS, Md. — The Baltimore Ravens completed a shake-up of their coaching staff Tuesday, hiring Jim Fassel as offensive coordinator, Patrick McQuinn as quarterback coach and

### NFL briefs

promoting Rex Ryan to defensive coordinator.

Fassel, who coached the New York Giants from 1997-03, worked as a senior consultant to the Ravens this season. He wanted another head coaching job, but he did not receive an offer and will now try to improve the league's 31st-ranked offense. He replaces Matt Cavanaugh, who resigned under pressure.

Neuheisel has been out of coaching since being fired by the University of Washington in June 2003 for participating in a high-stakes basketball pool. After impressing the Ravens while interviewing for the job as offensive coordinator, he was hired for the task of refining the skills of quarterback Kyle Boller, a role Fassel filled last season.

Ryan takes over for Mike Nolan, who left Monday to become head coach of the San Francisco 49ers. Ryan has been the Ravens' defensive line coach since 1999.

**Parcells ousts two assistants**

IRVING, Texas — Bill Parcells took the first big step in his offseason overhaul of the Dallas Cowboys by announcing Monday he dumped two assistants: offensive line coach George Warhop and kicking coach Steve Hoffman.

Warhop's unit was among the team's biggest disappointments this season, and he had nearly two weeks ago that he'd been told he would be let go. He was replaced by tight ends coach Tony Sparano, who was Cleveland's offensive line coach in 2000.

# Atlanta's potent running game is a Dunn deal

## Veteran RB backs up stellar regular season with record-setting game against Rams

BY STEVE HENSON  
Los Angeles Times

ATLANTA — One of the NFL's unwritten commandments is to never trust any one over 30 to carry the football.

Yet in his first game since reaching the age that qualifies running backs as senior citizens, Warrick Dunn established an Atlanta Falcons postseason record with 142 yards rushing Saturday in a 47-17 victory over the St. Louis Rams.

Afterward, beaming Falcons players made their way from the locker room as fans shook their hands and slapped their backs. All the players had a spring in their gait after advancing to the NFC championship game, but only Dunn was in a full sprint.

"Look at him, after all those carries," a woman exclaimed. "He can't stop running."

Why should he? Dunn still has lightning in his stride and lightness to his feet. For the first time in years, he doesn't feel like he's carrying the weight of the world on his shoulders.

He no longer is made to feel like a payroll burden and the owner's pet, not since coach Dan Reeves was fired with three games left in the 2003 season.

He no longer feels obligated to support his younger siblings the way he did for years after his mother, a Baton Rouge, La., police officer, was shot and killed while working a second job as a security guard in 1993. His three brothers and two sisters all are in college or have graduated.

And he certainly doesn't want to stop until a Super Bowl is reached, not after missing out on the Tampa Bay Buccaneers' title run in 2002. He signed with the Falcons before that season for \$28.5 million over six years, having built a strong résumé in five seasons with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

So Dunn bounded into the locker room, changed quickly and paused only to put the victory in perspective. This was his ninth playoff game and several were major disappointments, including an eight-car, 1-yard performance in a loss to the Philadelphia Eagles in 2000. He had averaged 41 yards a game and less than 3.0 yards per carry in



**Eight-year NFL veteran Warrick Dunn (28) rushed for a Falcons playoff-record 142 yards in Saturday's 47-17 rout of the St. Louis Rams. Dunn led Atlanta's top-ranked rushing offense (167 yards per game) with 1,106 rushing yards and nine touchdowns this season.**

the postseason until the breakout against the Rams.

"I had never been a huge factor in a playoff game," he said. "I wanted to come out and make some plays to help our team win."

Someone needed him about his age, he turned 30 on Jan. 5. "I feel young," he said. "My legs are fresh, and I'm just having fun."

Dunn had more than 100 yards in the first quarter and scored on runs of 62 and 19 yards, showing that a defense will pay for being overly concerned with explosive

single quarterback Michael Vick.

"When you have a guy like that rolling one way and we're going the other, the defense tends to go with him," Dunn said.

"That created some running lanes that I was able to take advantage of early."

His teammates talked about his leadership and maturity, terms that can carry the subtext of over-the-hill. Rather than take umbrage and point out that Curtis Martin, Marshall Faulk and Emmitt Smith are also 30-something tailbacks, Dunn took the compliments at face value.

"Guys were so anxious during practice this week they were fighting a little bit," he said. "I tried to help cut the tension. Even in pregame, guys had to calm down. I was getting tired before the game even started."

Soon the Rams were tired of chasing him into the end zone. It was the kind of performance Falcons owner Arthur Blank envisioned when he signed Dunn.

Reeves bit his tongue, but made his feelings clear when he used a first-round pick in 2002 to draft running back T.J. Duckett rather than fill the team's more pressing need at receiver.

Blank was said to be smitten by Dunn because of his community involvement, especially the Home for the Holidays charity program that has enabled single mothers from Baton Rouge to St. Petersburg and

Tampa, Fla., to become first-time homeowners.

Blank, who co-founded Home Depot in 1978, soon partnered with Dunn, supplying furnishings in the homes provided to low-income mothers.

Dunn makes the down payments. "I put them in a position to succeed, to become stable, to try to better their lives, move forward and better their kids' lives," Dunn said. "It's not about me, it's about a mother and her family."

He began the program in 1997, his rookie season, after signing for \$8.8 million as a first-round pick out of Florida State. Helping single mothers had been his dream since his own mother, Cpl. Betty Dunn Smothers of the Baton Rouge Police Department, was shot and killed while escorting a supermarket manager to make a night bank deposit.

Dunn, the oldest of her children, was an 18-year-old high school senior. He thought his dream of playing college football had been dashed, but his grandmother had the help of the Baton Rouge police and other community services to ensure his brothers and sisters were cared for, and he went to Florida State.

In his first year in the NFL, his three youngest siblings moved to Tampa with him.

"Sometimes after practice some of the guys would go out, and I couldn't," Dunn said. "I'd be like, 'I gotta go make dinner for everybody, make sure they do their homework.' They were leaning on me for emotional support, and every now and then I'd give financial benefits."

Now the youngest of his brothers and sisters is 20 and all are self-sufficient. Dunn's attention has turned to providing guidance on the field.

He thinks last year (retired fullback) Bobby Christian was maybe 70 percent of our leadership and Warrick 30 percent," Falcons running backs coach Olin Wilson said. "Now, he's probably 100 percent."

"Before, maybe he only spoke if he was asked questions. Now, he starts conversations and asks questions. 'What if we do this?' How can we do that better?"

Dunn racked up his third 1,000-yard season in 2004, and he got better as the season progressed. His performance against the Rams was his fourth 100-yard game in the past five. Only five 8, 190 pounds for the first time and set career highs with nine rushing touchdowns and 265 carries.

"I think the misimpression people have about Warrick is that because of his size, he's an outside runner," coach Jim Mora said. "But he's not. He's so good between the tackles because he can find that crease and he can hit it quickly. That's one reason why he's so effective."

And another is that he doesn't stop running — until he reaches the locker room.



**5 a.m. Monday:**  
AFN-Pacific/Korea, Atlantic, AFN radio

Game time is Japan and Korea Standard. Guam is one hour ahead; Singapore and Hong Kong are one hour behind.

## Déjà vu: Patriots take momentum into Pittsburgh

DEJA VU, FROM BACK PAGE

Yes, New England lost in Pittsburgh, 34-20 on Oct. 31, ending a league-record 21-game winning streak. But Dillon missed that game with a thigh injury and the Patriots rushed for just 5 yards on six attempts.

The spread also reflects the quarterback discrepancy.

Ben Roethlisberger is 14-0 as a starter, eight games better than the previous record for consecutive victories by a rookie QB.

But he is a rookie and the Steel-

ers beat the Jets 20-17 in overtime Saturday despite Big Ben, not because of him. His two interceptions were disastrous — one was returned for a touchdown, the other led to a 43-yard missed field goal by Doug Brien that would have ended Pittsburgh's season if it was good.

Tom Brady, on the other hand, has won all seven postseason games he's started, although he got hurt during the Patriots' title game upset in Pittsburgh three years ago and Drew Bledsoe came in to throw a TD pass that helped win the game.

That's not to say Pittsburgh doesn't have a chance.

The Steelers gained 417 yards against the Patriots in the regular-season game, 221 on the ground. If they can run again (a better possibility if Seymour is out or hampered), they could control the clock the way the Patriots did against the Colts.

But New England's loss in that game came at a time when it was losing momentum, likely under the pressure of continuing their record streak (yes, even the Patriots occasionally feel pressure.)

Now they're picking up momentum, as they seem to do at this time every year.

They're also conscious that next season might not be so easy because they are likely to have a break in new coordinators to replace Charlie Weiss on offense and Romeo Crennel on defense.

Weis already has taken the head coaching job at Notre Dame and has been spending time working for both the Patriots and Fighting Irish. Crennel seems set for the head coaching job in Cleveland, although he can't accept it

**New England Patriots at Pittsburgh Steelers**

**8:30 a.m. Monday:**  
AFN-Pacific/Korea, Atlantic, AFN radio

Game time is Japan and Korea Standard. Guam is one hour ahead; Singapore and Hong Kong are one hour behind.

or do any work for the Browns until the Patriots' season ends.

The way things look now, that's not likely to be until after the Super Bowl.

## SPORTS



Clemens asks arbiter for \$22 million, one-year deal; Dodgers' Gagne agrees to \$19 million, two-year contract, Page 37



AP  
Jeff Reed (3) bailed out the Steelers with a 33-yard field goal in overtime to beat the Jets on Saturday. Despite winning 15 consecutive games and entering the AFC title game with a 16-1 record and home-field advantage, Pittsburgh starts the week as a 3-point underdog to New England.

## New England has the look of a champion once again

BY DAVE GOLDBERG  
The Associated Press

**Y**es, the New England Patriots go to Pittsburgh to face a team that beat them in the regular season and has a 16-1 record with 15 straight wins.

But no, the Patriots probably won't lose to the Steelers in next Sunday's AFC title game. Nor are they likely to lose in the Super Bowl on Feb. 6, probably against Philadelphia.

In fact, after winning two of the past three NFL titles, going 14-2 for the second straight season and shutting down Peyton Manning as no one has done since they did it a year ago, it makes you wonder what happened in 2002, when the Patriots missed the playoffs after finishing 9-7. Dismiss that season and they are a unique team for any era, especially this one.

"What are they going to do now, change the rules again?" Patriots linebacker Tedy Bruschi asked facetiously after Sunday's 20-3 triumph over Manning and the Colts. "Make a rule that we can't play in the snow?"

Technically, the NFL didn't change the rules after the Patriots shut down Manning a year



AP  
New England quarterback Tom Brady (above) improved to 7-0 in playoff games but will face the league's top-rated defense at Pittsburgh on Sunday.

ago in the AFC title game. They only added a "point of emphasis" for the officials, cracking down on bumping and grabbing receivers after Indy complained they were continuously mugged in that game.

That change had little effect Sunday.

Even with free-agent rookie Randall Gay, safety Asante Samuel and wide receiver Troy Brown doing most of the work at cornerback in place of the injured Ty Law and Tyrone Poole, Manning's three star wide receivers could rarely get open. All-Pro defensive lineman Richard Seymour, out with a knee injury, was hardly missed.

"Any other team that loses Pro Bowlers loses a lot," Manning



AP  
Pats coach Bill Belichick will have a new offensive coordinator next season and most likely will have to hire a defensive coordinator.

said after the game. "But the Patriots never seem to."

It wasn't all defense, especially after intermission during what coach Bill Belichick called "the best half we played this year."

Corey Dillon, whose acquisition by the Patriots may be as significant as Terrell Owens' was for Philadelphia, ran for 144 yards as New England had the ball for 38 minutes, limiting Manning's opportunities.

Dillon is probably the reason the Patriots are favored by three points on the road against the Steelers, very rare for a visitor in a championship contest. That's effectively six points — the Steelers would normally get three for having the home field.

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